

Shahak trying to cool tension with Rajoub

BILL HUTMAN and JON IMMANUEL

DEPUTY Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Amnon Shahak has personally intervened to resolve the crisis over the uncovering of Palestinian security agents' operations outside the autonomous areas, fearing it might spark unrest in the territories, Palestinian sources said yesterday.

Shahak recently contacted Palestinian security chief in Jericho, Jibril Rajoub, in an effort to find a solution. Shahak could not be reached for comment.

Security sources confirmed there was concern that if the present tensions continued, it was likely to "heat up" the territories.

The sources indicated Rajoub's agents would be allowed to continue to operate in the territories, but not in Jerusalem.

Yesterday Rajoub's three bodyguards, detained in Jerusalem about 10 days ago, were remanded for another seven days in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court.

"The time has come to stop this destructive attitude on the part of the Israelis towards my operations," Rajoub said in reaction to the remand extension.

Rajoub told *The Jerusalem Post* that his agents were working to "keep the peace" in the territories, and the Israeli security forces were "acting irrationally, as if I was against the peace process."

Rajoub also accused Police Minister Moshe Shahal of trying to arrest him, and said he saw no prospect of Israeli-Palestinian security coordination under the current circumstances.

Rajoub added that Israel refused to return his official jeep, impounded in Jerusalem with his bodyguards. He called Shahal's demand that he answer questions concerning the activities of his bodyguards and agents outside Jericho as meaning "he wants to arrest me."

The security chief warned that "I think the situation will become very difficult" if the three guards are not released.

Sources close to Rajoub said the security chief had strong influence in the territories. If Rajoub is detained for questioning, as Shahal threatened, it would spark widespread unrest, they said.

Rajoub said that two of his agents in Hebron were also being held by the police and General Security Service.

The three bodyguards whose remands were extended are suspected of involvement in the alleged kidnapping of the Palestinian TV head Sami Samara.

"The Palestinian security service has taken the law into its own hands in Jerusalem," police representative Deputy Commander Solomon Amir told the court.

Amir said "according to the Oslo Agreement, the Palestinian security service was supposed to only operate in the autonomous areas," while in fact it operated throughout the territories and Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, Itim reported that seven Palestinian policemen in civilian clothes were held for questioning last night after a police patrol discovered them in Jerusalem's Shufat refugee camp. They said they were on their way to Gaza but did not have permits.



One of Jibril Rajoub's bodyguards is brought into Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday, where he and two other bodyguards had their remand extended by another week.

IDF spots hang glider

JON IMMANUEL

TROOPS patrolling near the Allenby Bridge shot at what they said was a hang glider hovering in the air over the River Jordan yesterday morning, but it disappeared after they fired, the IDF reported.

Military sources said last night they could not confirm a hang glider was actually seen. If it was, it was not known whether the person manning the glider was accidentally blown off course, was trying to get a closer look at Israel or was on his way to attack an Israeli target. It was not known whether he was hit.

The Palestinians once boasted of establishing an air force of hang gliders. A youth sent on a motor-powered hang glider from Lebanon by Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, penetrated Israeli airspace in November 1987, landing near an army camp and killing six soldiers before being shot dead.

Liba'i: Palestinians with blood on their hands could be released

EVELYN GORDON

THERE is no guarantee that Palestinian prisoners with "blood on their hands" will not be released as part of some future deal with the PLO, Justice Minister David Liba'i said yesterday.

In a meeting with representatives of Victims of Arab Terror International (VATI), Liba'i said he had never yet ordered the release of any Palestinian prisoner guilty of killing a Jew, and that he had never even been asked to do so, according to Ze'ev Rapp, chairman of the Israeli branch of the organization.

However, Rapp added, Liba'i said he could not promise that this would be true in the future.

Liba'i's spokeswoman, Ilana Levy, confirmed the statements. She said that Liba'i himself is very sensitive to the idea that people who have committed crimes must be punished, but it is the government rather than he, which will ultimately be the one to set the policy.

VAT used the meeting to ask that families of victims be informed if

anyone connected with their death or injury has been released. VAT President Shifra Hoffman said the Association of Civil Rights in Israel has agreed that the families have the right to this knowledge, and has promised to help VAT if the government is not forthcoming.

However, Liba'i told the group that most of the prisoners, being residents of the territories, were released on order of Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin rather than via his office, and that therefore only the security forces have the full list of names, Itim reported.

Liba'i did promise, however, to investigate the case of the murderer of Janet Kadosh, which was brought up by Hoffman, Rapp said. Hoffman cited a *Jerusalem Post* op-ed by Yigal Carmon, former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir's advisor on terrorism, which said that Kadosh's murderer, released because he was a "vegetable," has since recovered and is now studying computer science at Gaza University.

Security forces raid Nablus offices of two Islamic groups

JON IMMANUEL

SECURITY forces yesterday broke into two offices in Nablus with ties to Islamic groups and took away material. They were acting on a tip that the offices were disseminating "inciteful Hamas material," a Civil Administration spokeswoman said.

Both offices, Al-Kuds Press and the Center for Koran Study, are on the sixth floor of the Karsua Building in the center of town. Several newspapers and political groups, including Fatah, have offices there.

A journalist working for Al-Kuds Press said soldiers broke in at 10 a.m., when no one happened to be in either office. He said nothing was taken from his office, and that the only noticeable thing missing from the Center for Koran Study was memorized passages of the Koran written by schoolchildren. The doors to both offices

were damaged, he said.

In Fatah-dominated Nablus, Hamas tends to be more moderate than in Gaza or Hebron, its strongholds. Some Palestinians thought the break-in was connected with its election plans.

Jamal Mansour, an Islamic activist who works with Al-Kuds Press, said in a lecture at Bir Zeit University a week ago that Hamas would establish a political party to contest Palestinian elections. This theme has since been taken up by other Hamas activists, but condemned by Hamas spokesmen in Jordan.

The unusual attribution of the announcement to the Civil Administration rather than the IDF Spokesman's Office increases the likelihood that the intruders were concerned with political material

rather than material pointing to planned violence.

In the Gaza Strip, an Izzadine Kassam member wounded when Preventive Security Force agents opened fire as he tried to drive away from a Rafiah roadblock on Sunday, died on Tuesday night. Mohammed Abu Shmashah became the first member of Izzadine Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, to be killed by Palestinian police.

In the same incident, a Palestinian police officer Lt. Col. Yusef Hinnis was accidentally killed by bullets from the same gun which killed Abu Shmashah.

In Bidu, northwest of Jerusalem, the IDF imposed a curfew after villagers rioted to protest the death of Ziad Adali, who was shot after evading a roadblock at the A-Ram junction on Tuesday and ignoring orders to halt.

Israel, Arabs push US to back Middle East bank

DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAELI, Jordanian, Egyptian and Palestinian representatives met earlier this week in Cairo to try to get the US to back a Middle East development bank to finance projects coming out of next month's first-ever regional business conference in Casablanca, a senior Israeli official said yesterday.

"The idea of a Middle East development bank will rise or fall based on US support. The US is still considering the matter," Oded Eran, Foreign Ministry assistant director-general for economic affairs said yesterday.

According to Eran and other senior officials in Jerusalem, the State Department favors the idea, noting the political benefits that could be gained in favor of regional economic cooperation, while the US Treasury is doing an economic cost-benefit analysis.

Meanwhile, the steering committee for the Casablanca conference group will take place there today. US special Middle East coordinator Dennis

Ross, who held talks in Jerusalem today and discussed Casablanca at the Foreign Ministry yesterday, will represent the Clinton Administration. Ross will take the Israeli delegation, led by Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir, along with him on his US government plane.

Israeli officials say they have been notified that Saudi Arabian businessmen, and perhaps Saudi officials, will be in Casablanca, as will representatives of hundreds of multinational corporations from the US, Europe, and Japan.

Israel was disappointed that US efforts failed to persuade the Arab League to drop the secondary and tertiary economic boycotts at its recent meeting. "We hope Casablanca will make the boycott a dead letter," a senior official said yesterday.

The Israeli liaison office in Morocco should be open by the conference.

Temple Mount Faithful accepts compromise

EVELYN GORDON

THE Temple Mount Faithful will be able to ascend the Temple Mount on Sunday, but not today as originally requested, according to a police-initiated compromise approved by the High Court of Justice yesterday.

The group had petitioned the court last week, after the police told it Jews would not be allowed on the Temple Mount at all during the intermediate days of Succot.

It noted that its members have always been allowed to ascend the mount sometime during the holiday, even during the worst days of the intifada. Therefore, argued attorney Naftali Werzberger, it is ridiculous for the police to say that now, when Arab-Jewish relations are supposedly less tense as a result of the peace process, Jewish visitors to the mount would create too grave a security risk for them to handle.

In response to the petition, the police told the court they would be willing to permit a visit, but they

wanted it on Sunday, when less people are expected to be praying at the Western Wall. This will make it easier to deal with an incident if one does break out.

The petitioners were initially reluctant to accept the compromise, saying they did not accept the idea that the mount should be closed to Jews on any day, and that if violence were feared, it is the would-be rioters who should be punished, not their intended victims. However, Justices Dov Levine, Dalia Dornier and Ya'akov Kedmi made it clear that it was this or nothing.

"You have to understand that this is a sensitive matter," Levine said. Attorney Uzi Fogelman, representing the state, said it was particularly sensitive because the group's advertisements were "a provocation." The ads call on people to join the group in "erecting a cornerstone for the Third Temple on the Jewish Temple Mount and calling for its liberation from foreigners."

Abu Ala reconciled with Arafat, meets Dennis Ross

JON IMMANUEL

PALESTINIAN Economics Minister Ahmed Qreia (Abu Ala) said he has resolved his differences with Yasser Arafat and thus was able to participate in yesterday's Gaza meeting with US envoy Dennis Ross.

The chief Oslo negotiator and Palestinian financial manager had stayed away from two important earlier economic meetings in Cairo and Paris and last week's Palestinian Authority meeting. This fueled reports of his impending resignation, which would have further reduced the credibility of Palestinian claims to economic self-management.

Qreia said he had resolved his differences with Arafat concerning the running of economic affairs. He said Arafat had agreed that "more experts be involved in planning and implementing economic policy." But he stopped short of saying Arafat had agreed to reduce his own authority over financial matters.

Qreia, director-general of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR), which Arafat chairs, said that "he never intended to resign, but there were issues to be discussed concerning PECDAR and other economic matters."

In the meeting with the American delegation, which he characterized as "good and positive," Qreia was supported by PECDAR economist Samir Huleihel. Altogether, Qreia said he was confident that by the end of the year the PA would receive about \$400 million from donors, through bilateral agreements and through UN agencies, UNRWA and UNDP. This compares with \$630 million originally expected.

The Palestinians and Americans also discussed outstanding political issues, the second stage of the Oslo accord, Israeli redeployment beyond Gaza and Jericho, and elections in the territories. The Palestinians accused Israel of delaying the elections. Israel has until now cited Palestinian lack of financing as a cause for delaying transfer of additional authority.

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Kaddoumi meets with Jordan's PM to ease strain

AMMAN (Reuters) - Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's foreign affairs department, met Jordanian Prime Minister Abdul-Salam Majali yesterday to discuss relations strained over Jordanian-Israeli peace moves and the future of Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem.

Kaddoumi said the PLO supported a Libyan call for an Arab summit to clear up inter-Arab differences, worsened by the 1990-91 Gulf war.

Jordan said this week it rejected any change in its religious role in Jerusalem, including a Palestinian demand to take control of holy sites run by Jordan for decades.

Israel charged with violating spirit of DOP

JON IMMANUEL

ISRAEL was charged yesterday with violating the spirit and letter of the Oslo accord, and leaving in doubt its intention to implement it in full.

At a news conference presenting a Palestinian perspective on the Oslo accord one year later, Gush Shalom, the far left-wing Israeli peace bloc, and Jiser, the Palestinian Information Center, said eight of 16 articles of the Declaration of Principles had not been implemented "in full or in part."

Prime Minister Yitzhak "Rabin is trying to drag the negotiations to the next elections," said Ziad Abu Zayyad, a former negotiator.

The main grievance involved the Israeli attitude towards Palestinian elections, which were originally scheduled for mid-July.

Uri Avnery, a former MK and jour-

nalist, said that the source of many of the breaches was Rabin's assertion that "no dates are sacred," which he said was a basic "breach of contract."

However, the DOP refers to a planned date for elections "as a goal" not a binding date. Similarly, Dr. Mamdough Aker, a former negotiator, pointed to Israel's release of 4,400 prisoners instead of a promised 5,000 as a breach, although the Cairo agreement specifies "about 5,000."

Avnery noted that Palestinians are permitted by the DOP to raise issues of permanent status, including Jerusalem, since the DOP says such talks will begin "as soon as possible." (Article 5). However, he conceded Israel has the option according to the same article of waiting until "the beginning of the third year."

Gamla hunger strikers buoyed by continuing flow of visitors

TENS of thousands of visitors continue to visit the hunger strikers at Gamla, with a long convoy of buses and cars seen on Golan Heights roads on their way there yesterday.

"The most successful festival wouldn't be able to draw such crowds," Sami Bar-Lev, the head of the Katrin local council and one of the hunger strikers, said yesterday, the 11th day of the strike. He said the visitors just wanted to express support for keeping the Golan under Israeli control, and to shake the hunger strikers' hands.

"People came from Eilat, shook hands, said good-bye, and returned to Eilat," he said. He called for all efforts to be made to block a referendum on the Golan issue.

Deputy Education Minister Micha Goldman, who tried to speak to the hunger strikers, was constantly cut off and had to give up his efforts, while Likud MK Dov Shilansky and Shas's Moshe Maiya were among those who promised they would do what they could to prevent withdrawal from the Golan.

Currently there are 15 hunger strikers, who appear weak, particularly the older ones, like Yehuda Harel of Merom Golan. To date, about 50,000 people have visited them.

The Yitd Knesset faction yes-

terday decided to contribute NIS 10,000 to the Golan Heights Settlement Council. Party Secretary-General Hani Dorian and MK Alex Goldfarb are expected to visit Gamla today to deliver the money.

Police have had no problem with the protesters and their visitors, with parking lots and organized rides set up, freeing police for other duties.

Elsewhere in the North, at the "Succa of Peace" set up by Meretz at the Golan Junction, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said: "If the channel of communications between ourselves and Syria is blocked, so will the others between us and Jordan, between us and the Palestinians, and with the other Arab countries."

Visiting the site with MK Benny Temkin, Sarid warned that if a peace agreement with Syria is initiated and not approved in a referendum or elections, the region will revert to chaos and Israel will regress dozens of years to a renewed, overall conflict with the Arabs.

If the agreement is approved, it would lead to peace with other Arab nations both near and far, Sarid said.

Asked about the Golan settlers, Sarid said they had no doubt fulfilled a mission, but that mission was about to end, having achieved its main goal - a peace agreement with Syria.

Sarid said that the Golan settlers had to understand that "a chance has been created for a peace agreement with Syria, and no one in Israel can take the responsibility for missing this chance." (Iim)

ARRIVALS

Koret Foundation Board of Directors: Susan Koret, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Friend, Tad Taube, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Green and Michael Papo.

DAVID WOLFERS

On September 17, 1994
In Melbourne, Australia
Beloved patriarch of our family

Helen Wolfers, Miriam Pollak, Danny Masel, Jonathan Wolfers, Debbie Miller, Peter Wolfers, Aviva Barazani, Dizzy, Boogie and Benny Miller, Felix Wolfers.

"Fare well with courage and all of my life's love"
Helen.

ARISTIDE

(Continued from Page 1)
"Thank you and the people of the United States for your commitment to lead the multinational effort in carrying out the will of the United Nations to help restore democracy in Haiti," he said.

Defense Secretary William Perry told Aristide that over 1,000 military police had joined US forces in Haiti and would try to end violent police crackdowns,

such as those that saw at least one Haitian clubbed to death on Tuesday.

Senior US officials said later that the US military policemen would patrol alongside Haitian police and were authorized to step in and stop beatings.

Aristide's comments were a clear effort to heal a serious rift with Clinton

BROTHERS

(Continued from Page 1)
said he was kept for 13 days, and jailed "in a bigger cell, in which there is no air or sunlight."

He said his interrogators took special pains to "tire me out so I would come to court tired and not be able to express myself properly."

This morning, Judge Uri Shoham is to rule on lawyer Zion Amir's appeal on Edri's behalf. Amir claims there are "serious cracks" in the evidence presented to the military court which justify releasing Edri.

Amir also charged that the "statement" taken down in Edri's handwriting was done so under "unusual" circumstances, and again took issue with the way Edri's interrogation was conducted.

Police shoot Arab car thief

POLICE shot and wounded a Palestinian car thief yesterday after he swerved to hit a policeman at a crossing into the Gaza Strip, the police and Palestinian reports said.

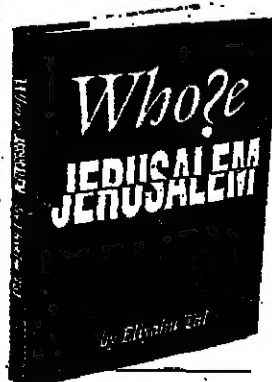
Palestinian reports said the thief was driving a Daihatsu stolen from Karmiel when police ordered him to stop. Instead he swerved and almost hit a policeman.

The driver, who was not identified other than as a resident of the Gaza town of Beit Lahia, was moderately wounded when police opened fire, Palestinians said. Meanwhile, in Ashdod, an Arab construction worker stabbed his employer, moderately injuring him in what was said to be a work-related argument. (AP)

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Trumpets are blown at yesterday's Hakhel ceremony at the Western Wall plaza. Thousands turned out for the ceremony — a symbolic reenactment of the one which took place in the Temple following the sabbatical year, in which the king read from the Torah before all the people. In 1987, it was revived, with the participation of then president Chaim Herzog. President Ezer Weizman was to have participated in yesterday's event, but there were objections to the participation of a non-observant president, and he later decided not to take part. Instead, the Torah was read by Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau and Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron. (Text: Haim Shapiro; Photo: Stein/Harari)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Conservative, Reform ask to see Rabin

The heads of the local Conservative and Reform movements have asked for an urgent meeting with Acting Religious Affairs Minister Yitzhak Rabin to discuss the participation of their representatives in the local religious councils.

The request follows a meeting which Rabin held with representatives of the religious parties before Succot, in which it was agreed to delay setting up the councils by two months, during which time the director-general of the ministry was to formulate proposals according to which the councils could be formed without non-Orthodox participants.

The Conservative and Reform movements noted, in their letter to Rabin, that the High Court of Justice had specifically rejected any such exclusion.

Bahraini to attend travel conference

A travel agent from Bahrain is slated to participate in this year's Go Galilee promotion campaign for travel agents from abroad, the organizers of the event said yesterday.

The confirmation for the agent from Bahrain came to Arkia Airlines, one of the organizers of the five-day conference, which is to be held October 13-17, for the fifth consecutive year. A similar gathering, for Israeli agents, is to take place in November. In addition to Bahrain, agents from 27 countries are to take part, including for the first time representatives from Japan and South Korea.

Agents from Jordan have also been invited, but they have not yet confirmed their attendance.

Three indicted for gang rape

Three young men who allegedly gang-raped a 15-year-old girl on a Haifa beach were indicted in Haifa District Court on Monday. According to the indictment, the three — Dimasli Igodini, 21, of Haifa, Basil Khamov, 21, of Afula, and a 17-year-old, publication of whose name was barred — took the girl on an outing during which they went to the beach. There they plied her with liquor, then raped her. Her screams brought two men to her aid, and they rescued her from her attackers.

National Arabic theater slated for Haifa

A national Arabic theater is to be established in Haifa, Culture Minister Shulamit Aloni told a news conference yesterday marking the 10th annual Haifa Film Festival. She said her ministry had budgeted NIS 2 million for the establishment of the new group.

Pain conference convening next week

"Revolutionary" treatments for spinal disc problems will be among those discussed at an international pain conference, to be held next week in Tel Aviv. Conference chairman Dr. David Yaniv said yesterday that pain from a ruptured disc or narrowing of the spinal column can be eased by electric current sent through electrodes into the spaces between the vertebrae.

Man indicted for attempted murder

A Yeroham man who allegedly attempted to murder a policeman while fleeing after robbing a Tel Aviv post office was indicted in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.

According to the indictment, Yaron Sheker, 19, held up the Rehov Mendele post office at gunpoint, escaping with NIS 40,800. As he was running away, two detectives grabbed him, and during the ensuing struggle he tried to fire at one of them, but the gun did not go off.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, king of hearts, king of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

Acre Festival off to a flying start

HELEN KAYE

OUTRAGEOUSLY purple Reuven Hanna is this year's sensation at the Acre Festival. An angry opening night crowd started to boo, but stayed to laugh. Dressed in purple chiffron and pearls, the actor makes no secret he's a homosexual, but it's his parody of a feel-good psychologist that gets the giggles.

Flags snapped in the welcome breeze last night as the festival swung into its second evening with some raucous rock courtesy of the IDF.

The crowds really start streaming in around 5 p.m. (Police sources estimate that there are 1.5 times more people this year than last, but they don't quote figures.) The visitors come to see plays, sample street theater, fill the restaurants, meet buddies, and generally have a ball.

Shula Atiyah of Herzliya has

come with her three children for the last five years. This year the Romano family and their three kids came with them.

"We come the whole day just for the street theater," beamed Atiyah. "They have 19 different shows to choose from."

But mostly you'd think that Tel Aviv cool crowd has moved en masse to Acre. The local kids line the streets for their annual gawk at nose rings, mini-shorts, torn jeans, and exotic head gear.

The action at the festival starts at 10 a.m., but at that hour it's mostly die-hard theater buffs. Altogether there are 25 shows competing for NIS 30,000 in prize money. But Acre isn't about prizes, it's about making theater, meeting, greeting, and having fun.

Annual Jerusalem March expected to snarl traffic

TODAY is going to be a long day for Jerusalem drivers, as the annual Hapoel March is expected to bring more than 20,000 people through the capital.

Traffic patterns are expected to be changed to accommodate the march, and the public is advised to avoid entering the city by car.

About 20,000 marchers will participate in the event, organized by the Hapoel organization, in conjunction with the Jerusalem municipality and Yediot Aheronot.

The marchers will arrive via two routes: a longer one of about 20 km., leaving at 6 a.m. from the Sheva Junction via Ein Hemed and Beit Zayit; and a shorter one of about 12 km., leaving at 6:30

a.m. from the Ein Hemed campground, which will link up with marchers opting for the longer route. The marchers will end their walk in a mass gathering in Sacher Park.

A competitive march will also be held with 19 groups participating, who will be judged on form, dress, and morale.

The march is due to pass through the downtown area at about 2 p.m., traveling from Sacher Park up Bezalel Street to Ben-Yehuda Street, then down King George Street and Jaffa Road — where marchers will pass a reviewing stand — before ending at the Jerusalem International Convention Center. (Itim)

Israeli artist breaks world record

AMIR ROZENBLIT

ARTIST Uzi Uziel reportedly broke the world record for rapid drawing yesterday, during the course of a Succot Hapening at Ein Gedi.

He drew a 1 km.-long work, called "Line to Peace." The line was started by two children from Kibbutz Ein Gedi — Zili Galpez and Rotem Rosenbaum — and was completed by Uziel in one hour and 10 minutes. His feat should put Uziel in the Guinness Book of World Records.

The kibbutz spokesman said the drawing was dedicated to the kibbutz's neighbors east of the Jordan River as a sign of peace and friendship.

Bahashian murder suspect refuses to wear 'disguise' in line-up

THE suspect in the murder of underworld figure Amnon Bahashian was remanded for a further 11 days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday, after he refused to participate in a line-up wearing a baseball cap and dark glasses.

Defense lawyer David Yiftach told the court his client "is prepared to take part in a regular line-up showing his face, but will not wear this disguise."

Bahashian, 51, a former underworld figure both here and in the US, was shot dead by a lone gunman as he sat in his restaurant at a

RAINE MARCUS

busy Tel Aviv intersection shortly before midnight around six weeks ago.

Several eyewitnesses reported that the murderer wore a baseball cap and dark glasses and calmly walked away after the hit.

Two weeks ago a suspect was arrested. Publication of his name was banned pending a line-up. The suspect is a relative of Joe Grazia, an emigre living in the US who was shot by Bahashian's nephew around five years ago.

Grazia was to testify in court against Bahashian in another case. Bahashian's nephew is serving a prison term in the US for attempted murder, while his uncle fled to Israel.

The suspect was expelled to Israel from the US after serving time there for drug offenses. Two weeks after his arrival here Bahashian was murdered.

Police said they have concrete evidence linking the man to the murder, and recently received documents from Interpol and the FBI allegedly incriminating him.

Immigrants to protest lack of housing

IMMIGRANT organizations are planning rallies in 18 towns during the intermediate days of Succot to draw attention to the plight of families from the CIS who have not been able to buy homes.

"There are 45,000 homeless immigrant families in the country today, living in destitution... elderly, single-parent families, disabled and terminally ill cases who do not have minimal conditions of security," Zionist Forum president Natan Sharansky said yesterday in a letter seeking support from MKs.

In his early days as construction minister, Binjamin Ben-Eliezer

BATSHEVA TSUR

had vowed to bring down housing prices or to take responsibility for failing to do so, Sharansky said. "The reality today is that in 1993, housing prices skyrocketed by 25.6 percent in real terms and by 11.7% in the first seven months of this year," Sharansky noted. At the same time, he said, the value of mortgages had dropped by 40%.

He added that the government had failed to provide housing in areas where there is a reasonable chance of employment. Moreover, in places where public housing is available but there are insufficient

jobs, local council heads are loathe to accept olim, he added.

"A home — that's the whole story" is the slogan chosen by the Forum and other immigrant organizations under its aegis which plan to ask the general public to sign petitions of support.

On Sunday morning, the immigrants are planning to gather outside the Tel Aviv Museum and to march through Ibn Gvirol and Kaplan to Derech Hashalom. From there, buses will go to Jerusalem, where they will demonstrate outside the Knesset. Later, a "protest succa" will open on the roof of the Forum offices in Romema.

Tsur, Sarid at loggerheads over control of Nature Reserves Authority

LIAT COLLINS

AGRICULTURE Minister Ya'acov Tsur and Environment Minister Yossi Sarid are sparring over Sarid's proposal to assume full and exclusive ministerial responsibility for the Nature Reserves Authority (NRA). Both ministries currently share jurisdiction for the statutory body.

According to Tsur, who yesterday voiced his objections to the plan, there is a "very real relationship between the responsibility for and jurisdiction over nature reserves and the treatment of agricultural land, pasture and grazing land, irrigation problems, land protection, water and settlement — all of which are under the Agriculture Ministry's control."

Tsur also objects to transferring responsibility for the Wildlife Protection Law to the Environment Ministry because enforcement is in the hands of the veterinary services, which also falls under his portfolio. He said the transfer would cause a "superficial separation which would lead to increased manpower, unnecessary doubling of functions and lack of liaison between the bodies which would eventually harm the animals and wildlife."

He suggested establishing a commission to be chaired by the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, Shimon Sheves, to examine all aspects of the Agriculture Ministry's functions.

In response, Sarid said: "In all the enlightened countries in the western world which operate both an agriculture and an environment ministry, the subject of nature protection lies in the hands of the environment ministry."

He noted that the National

Parks Authority, another statutory body founded to protect open spaces and landscape and operating according to the same law as the NRA, lies fully under the environment ministry's control.

He said the NRA already fulfills several functions which overlap with the Environment Ministry, such as litter prevention and water pollution detection and this makes the system "cumbersome."

The veterinary services could work with the Environment Ministry in the same way they operate with municipalities (under Interior Ministry control) when it comes to rabies protection and domestic animals, Sarid said.

Other environmentalists, who requested anonymity, ridiculed the idea that Sheves was the best qualified person to examine professional matters pertaining to agriculture or environment.

22-week-old fetus undergoes surgery

JUDY SIEGEL

DOCTORS at Ha'emek Hospital in Afula have operated on a 22-week-old fetus whose urethra (the tube that passes urine out of the body) was dangerously obstructed. It was reportedly the first such operation here.

The problem was found in the fetus of a woman, 26, who underwent a routine ultrasound scan. Her amniotic sac was found to have an inadequate amount of fluid for the fetus to swim in; the cause was a blockage in the urethra. Amniotic fluid is partially comprised of fetal urine.

Dr. Eliezer Shalev, director of the gynecology and obstetrics department, watched the fetus on an ultrasound monitor while inserting a catheter into its bladder via the mother's abdomen. The operation, which took two or three minutes, freed the obstruction in the urethra and caused its urine to flow immediately into the amniotic sac. If the blockage had not been cleared, an inadequate supply of amniotic fluid and a backup of urine would have caused the baby to be born with respiratory distress or renal insufficiency.

Hospital director Dr. Moti Lifschitz said that Ha'emek has gradually become a national center for the treatment of fetuses in the womb. He added that the hospital is looking into the possibility of establishing a special unit for fetal treatment.

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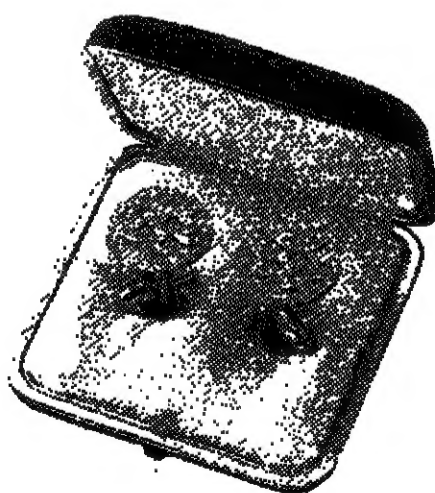
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US to revoke Nazi police chief's citizenship

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The Justice Department said yesterday it had sued to revoke the US citizenship of an accused Lithuanian security police chief linked to some of the worst Nazi atrocities during World War II.

The lawsuit charged that Aleksandras Lileikis, 57, a retired publishing company employee from Norwood, Massachusetts, was chief of the Lithuanian security police for Vilnius province during the German occupation.

As commander of a force whose responsibilities resembled those of the German Gestapo, the lawsuit charged that he was a senior figure in the Nazi effort to annihilate the entire Jewish population of Vilnius.

Eli Rosenbaum, head of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, told reporters Lileikis played "a leadership role in the destruction of the Jews of Vilnius."

He called the lawsuit, filed in federal court in Boston, "one of the most important Nazi cases brought anywhere in the world in recent history." It was said to be the first case ever against a Lithuanian security police official.

In June 1941, at the start of the German occupation, about 30 percent of the 200,000 residents in Vilnius were Jews.

That summer, the Nazis launched a campaign of mass murder and deportations to concentration camps that in three years killed all but 5,000 of the city's 60,000 Jewish residents.

The lawsuit alleged that Lileikis, from August 1941 until the German occupation ended in 1944, directed his force to seek out and arrest Jews who violated the Nazi's anti-Jewish decrees.

He especially singled out those Jews who escaped or attempted to escape from the barbed wire-enclosed ghettos in which they had been interned under inhumane conditions, the lawsuit charged.

Historical records found in Lithuania show that Lileikis repeatedly signed and issued orders directing that arrested Jews be held in the Vilnius hard labor prison and then turned over to the German Gestapo for execution.

Most of the victims, believed to total 40,000 Jews, were executed by gunfire in a nearby woods. The Justice Department described the killings as among the most notorious Nazi atrocities during the war.

The lawsuit charged that Lileikis denied any involvement in Nazi war crimes when he came to the United States from Germany in 1955 and in applying for US citizenship in 1976.

Rosenbaum said the case became possible with the opening up of the Lithuanian archives. Some of the documents were received as recently as last week.



Club-wielding Haitian soldiers force a woman from her home in Port-au-Prince during clashes between local security forces and pro-democracy demonstrators yesterday. (Reuters)

US urges Haitians to rein in police, army or else they will intervene

JEFFREY ULBRICH
PORT-AU-PRINCE

WARNING that US soldiers might step in, the commander of American forces urged Haiti's military leaders yesterday to stop using "unnecessary force" against pro-democracy demonstrators.

Sporadic violence erupted Tuesday at Port-au-Prince's docks, airport and huge Cite Soleil slum, while American soldiers stood by, hamstrung by policy, and watched in dismay. Witnesses said one man was clubbed to death by a Haitian policeman.

The military government banned street demonstrations in a communiqué on state media late Tuesday night. The broadcast was repeated yesterday morning.

To head off further violence, Lt. Gen. Henry Hugh Shelton and his top aides met yesterday with army chief Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras. Shelton said he would urge Cedras to rein in police, soldiers and pro-army militiamen.

The "use of unnecessary force is a matter of concern to us," Shelton told reporters before the meeting at army headquarters.

Shelton said American soldiers would leave crowd control and law and order to Haitian authorities, but left open the possibility US troops could step in if the situation goes out of control.

"It's an internal law and order situation," Shelton said, adding that if the Haitians fail to take the appropriate measures, "we will take the next step." He did not specify what that step might be.

The arrival of the Americans, under an accord brokered over the weekend that headed off an invasion, has prompted pro-democracy demonstrations and celebrations.

The jubilation has led to ugly clashes with Haitian police, who beat and tear-gassed crowds that gathered to welcome the US forces. American troops were preparing yesterday to spread out from Haiti's two major cities amid appeals for calm by political leaders.

In Washington, White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta told reporters this morning: "We're going to increase the patrols. We're going to make very clear to General Cedras that we can't see the kind of repetition of the situation that we saw yesterday."

The US-Haiti agreement, worked out by a delegation headed by former US President Jimmy Carter, requires military leaders to step down by Oct. 15 and allow the restoration of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Aristide, Haiti's first democratically elected president, was ousted by Cedras and his cohorts in a Sept. 1991 coup.

Shelton said one problem that does not bode well for efforts to quell the violence could be that Cedras does not have firm enough control over police or militiamen. "Many of them can be classified only as thugs," he said.

US troops landed in Port-au-Prince on Monday, and about 1,800 Marines landed Tuesday at Haiti's second city, Cap-Haitien, in the north. Once their equipment is ashore, they are to begin fanning out into the countryside.

The potential for violence remains high in this wretchedly poor Caribbean nation as the intervention force gets organized and the ruling military and police desperately try to assure their own futures.

At the United Nations, the US ambassador said the Security Council won't lift a trade embargo against Haiti until Aristide returns to power.

Sanctions were imposed after the army overthrew Aristide. Stricter embargos and bans on travel and financial transactions have been imposed in the attempt to compel the military to restore him to power.

Ambassador Madeleine K. Albright had

said Monday the oil embargo and other sanctions could be suspended if Haiti's military rulers cooperated with the multinational force.

But yesterday, after US officials met with Aristide and Security Council members, Albright said, "What we have decided to do for now is not to ask for a suspension of sanctions."

As the US force prepares to spread out beyond Port-au-Prince and Cap-Haitien, both sides in Haiti appear to be testing their new status. Aristide supporters are feeling out how far they can press their anti-military demonstrations, while police appear to be measuring how Americans will respond if they get rough.

But in general, most people appear ready to give the latest plan to bring democracy to Haiti a chance. Even Franck Pierre, leader of the violent, pro-army political group Capois La Mort, sounded conciliatory.

Pierre asked people "to stay home and go about their business... let the Haitian and American armies do the job."

"The US Army has come to collaborate with the Haitian army to establish order and discipline," he said.

And Evans Paul, the pro-Aristide mayor of Port-au-Prince who has been in hiding for months, urged Haitians to stop demonstrating until the entire 15,000-member peace-keeping force has taken up its positions.

"As soon as the Americans are fully deployed, there will be new political dynamics," said Paul.

Many of the American soldiers were clearly unhappy at being prohibited from intervening to help civilians being gassed and clubbed by Haitian police.

"I feel terrible," said Spec. Douglas Walton of Cincinnati. "To see people beaten and not be able to do anything." (AP)

Russian intelligence warns Yeltsin over 'Western plot'

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Russia's foreign intelligence service, in an unusual move a week before a Russian-US summit, warned President Boris Yeltsin yesterday that forces in the West wanted to stop Russia becoming a great power.

In a public report, unveiled by its chief Yevgeny Primakov, the SVR said influential circles in the West were unhappy over reintegration moves among Russia and other former Soviet republics.

"Those (in the West), who oppose integration of the former Soviet republics, are betting on isolationist forces in Russia and in other republics," Primakov told reporters.

The report, titled "Russia-CIS: Does the West need to change its attitude?", allowed that Western fears arose partly from genuine worries that a union state could emerge again as an adversary.

But it added: "There are also clearly visible trends to prevent Russia from emerging as a great power."

Though denied by Primakov, it seemed clear the foreign intelligence service had called the high-profile presentation with an eye to the September 27-28 Washington summit between Yeltsin and US President Bill Clinton.

"Influential Western circles view Russia's role in uniting the former Soviet republics as 'imperialism'," said the report, only the third such in the SVR's history.

Primakov said his service had raised the issue because such views were increasingly being used to shape policy towards Russia in key Western countries.

"Anyone can think whatever he pleases about the prospects of reintegration," Primakov said. "The trouble is that this aspect is more often than not being closely linked

(by Western countries) to a changing attitude towards Russia and other ex-Soviet republics."

"The process of integration is an undoubted fact," he added. "And if the negative attitude to it gets rooted in Western capitals, it could strongly cool relations between these capitals and Moscow," Primakov said.

Russia was once a leading force in dismantling the Soviet Union. It was the first to announce its state sovereignty and supremacy of its laws above the Soviet Union.

Yeltsin, together with the then leaders of Ukraine and Belarus, effectively signed the Soviet Union's death warrant when they agreed to replace it with a new Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in late 1991.

But the attitude started changing as Russia found itself involved in conflicts flaring across the former Soviet Union and strongly affected by their economic problems.

The SVR report drew a scenario of possible future integration which would include creating a common economic space, united defense policy and moves to create supra-national state bodies.

"One cannot rule out the possibility of laying the groundwork for political integration, possibly in the form of a confederation," the report said.

Primakov defended such a vision, saying that coming closer to each other did not mean abandoning the independence achieved by the former Soviet republics.

"The leaders who came to power, say in Ukraine, and who are more open to integration ideas have not rejected national sovereignty," he said. "On the contrary, they have contributed to their republics' sovereignty by laying a real basis under it."

Rwandan refugees riot after grenade attack kills five

GOMA, Zaire (AP) — A grenade attack by an unknown assailant on a market killed five Rwandan refugees, setting off a riot among refugees who have become increasingly militant, officials said yesterday.

The refugees fought Zairian soldiers, who restored order at the Chimanga camp after about an hour Tuesday, but worried UN refugee officials were rushing their chief security adviser to the camp.

"It was a very serious security incident, and we are afraid that the rioting may spread to other areas," Capt. Declan O'Brien, a member of the Irish army contingent in Zaire, told The Associated Press.

Chimanga, 80 kms from Bukavu in eastern Zaire, is home to 15,000 Hutu refugees. About 1.2 million Hutus fled Rwanda for eastern Zaire after Tutsi-led rebels fought their way to power in July. The refugees include leaders of the deposed Hutu-led government and other who fear revenge killings for massacres of up to 500,000 Tutsi civilians during the fighting.

O'Brien said 20 people were wounded when someone lobbed a grenade at the marketplace, which is adjacent to the camp.

No deaths or injuries were reported in the riot. Lyndall Sachs, a spokeswoman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said she had no other details.

The riot reflects a growing militancy among the refugees, which would be a serious security concern, said Ms. Sachs.

"Such incidents indeed make us worry a lot, as they are a perfect recipe for starting a chain of security incidents," she said.

Meanwhile, UN officials reported that Hutus who have returned to their homes in Rwanda are coming back to the camps in Zaire.

At least 470 Hutu refugees came back to Zaire in the past four days, Sachs said. She said they were harassed in Rwanda, but did not give details of why they returned to Zaire.

In the past month, an estimated 45,000 Hutu refugees have gone back to Rwanda, most of them women, children and old men.

Danish premier Rasmussen set to stay in power

COPENHAGEN (Reuters) — Danish Prime Minister Poul Nyrup Rasmussen was set to win a new term in yesterday's general election but his Social Democrat-led coalition will be dependent on far-left votes, an exit poll predicted.

A Gallup poll broadcast by Danish television when voting closed at 1800 GMT gave the four-party centre-left government 44.6 percent and two far-left allies 10.7 for a combined 55.3 percent in favour of Rasmussen.

The right-wing opposition — Uffe Ellemann-Jensen's Liberals, the Conservatives and far-right populist Progress Party — were supported by 43.3 percent, crushing former foreign minister Ellemann-Jensen's dream to become prime minister.

Another exit poll by the AIM institute confirmed the trend. Ellemann-Jensen, with the support of the Danish government, is now tipped to enter the race to succeed the late Manfred Woerner as NATO secretary-general.

"I hope the Danish electorate will give us their support to continue in government. Up to now we have created new optimism and growth and we hope we can continue," Rasmussen told Reuters Television after casting his ballot.

in a Copenhagen school. Polls opened for nearly four million eligible voters in 103 constituencies at 9 a.m. Mid-afternoon turnout indicated voter participation above the 82.8 percent in the 1990 election.

The Gallup exit poll predicted the Social Democrats would win 34.9 percent, below their 1990 result of 37.4 percent.

With the government looking certain to lose its current one-seat majority in the 179-seat parliament, election researchers said a Rasmussen-led minority government was likely to emerge from the election.

It would turn to the Conservatives and Liberals for Denmark's traditional broad consensus on economic and foreign policy issues.

The campaign has focused on who is best suited to manage a booming economy, forecast to grow 4.4 percent this year, and bring down unemployment, still at a record 12.5 percent.

Ellemann-Jensen, 52, a strongly pro-NATO and European Union foreign minister between 1982 and 1993, has urged a fiscal tightening in order to bring down Denmark's moderate state budget deficit and considerable public debt.

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Notice to Tourists Planning to Go Through Taba Frontier Post

A large number of travelers are expected at the Taba Frontier Post during Succot, which will put pressure on the facilities. Drivers who do not wish to cross the frontier and go into Sinai are asked not to go into the vicinity of the Taba frontier post.

A police barrier will be set up near the underwater observation facility, in order to control traffic going to Egypt, the intention being to avoid traffic jams on the coast road.

A fee is charged for entering Egypt through the Taba frontier post. This can be paid at the frontier post, or at the following branches of the Post Office bank.

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For the information of those who wish to take a vehicle into Egypt:

- Only private cars may be taken in, and the car owner must be traveling with the car.
 - It is desirable to have with you an English translation of the vehicle license (obtainable from all branches of MEMSI) and to have comprehensive insurance cover.
 - Those leaving their vehicle in Israel are recommended to park the vehicle in a secure parking lot in Eilat (Egged depot, Shekem, etc.) and to travel to the frontier post by public transport.
- Parking is not allowed in the vicinity of the frontier post.**
- The police will give instructions to tow away vehicles which are parked on the main road, south of the Princess Hotel.
 - Commercial vehicles, vehicles with a diesel engine, 4x4 vehicles, hire cars, and trucks may not cross the frontier.

The Israel Airports Authority wishes travelers a joyous festival and a happy new year!

Bureau of the Authority Spokesman

JOEL GORDIN

There are slight changes to the interior, mainly with regard to the size and positioning of the controls. All the changes are for the better. Just one example of something thoughtful: the fuel-level gauge works even when the key is not turned on.

The new Subaru Legacy looks smaller than the old Legacy, but that is an optical illusion created by excellent design.

the driver to "kick down" to lower revs of any given gear and thus give more power to the engine. However, I did not notice much difference between power and regular mode, neither in the

There is only one other Legacy version available – with a 1.800cc engine, for NIS 84,000. The 1.6 liter version has been scrapped.

MARTHA WEISEL'S

line tradename Club.

(Clockwise from top left) The cover design for 'Protecting the Sea,' a beautifully illustrated environmentally concerned book for children; lightweight helmet for bikers from Polybid; Israel's first plastic playpen - resistant to heat, cold and water - from Galil Industries.

use *The Lion King* on plastic and

After the contents are used up, the lids representing Fred, Pebbles and Dino can be used as finger puppets.

The magazine itself – Israel's answer to the *National Geographic* – is published in English and Hebrew versions.

The miniatures and their scaled-down accessories are aimed at children in the six-to-nine age group, and should not be given to

For the introductory period, some of the sets from the Littlest Pet Shop series are selling for a mere NIS 9.90, instead of the

with Cozy Carrier and Huddling Hamsters with Hamster House. Higher prices apply to the sets of jungle cats and cold-climate wild animals.

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The right protest

THE success of the Golan hunger strikers, who today enter the 12th day of their fast, must have exceeded their expectations. More than 10,000 people visited their protest tent in Gama on the first day of Succot, turning the holiday into a modern-day pilgrimage of identification with the residents of the Golan Heights.

The visitors, who are continuing to flock to the site in their thousands, range from retired major-generals, Labor cabinet ministers, opposition politicians, and the "average" Israeli family for whom the Golan - aside from being an ideal spot for a short family holiday - provides a real feeling of security. The marvelous mountain scenery highlights its strategic importance - standing there one does not need to be a military man of 30 years experience to understand how the topography of the Golan Heights plays a vital role in the defense of northern Israel.

By turning their protest site into a magnet for visitors to the Golan, the hunger strikers have achieved more than any petition or mass demonstration in the center of Tel Aviv or Jerusalem could have done. In their selfless display of commitment to their cause, they have also rallied a feeling of sympathy which crosses political lines.

But it would be naive to think that the protest of 13 men and women will, by itself, significantly affect the negotiations between Israel and Syria. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres seem determined to bring Israel down from the Heights. Despite the lack of movement in today's talks with US envoy Dennis Ross and senior White House official Martin Indyk, all the signs point to the government's increasing readiness to make fateful decisions.

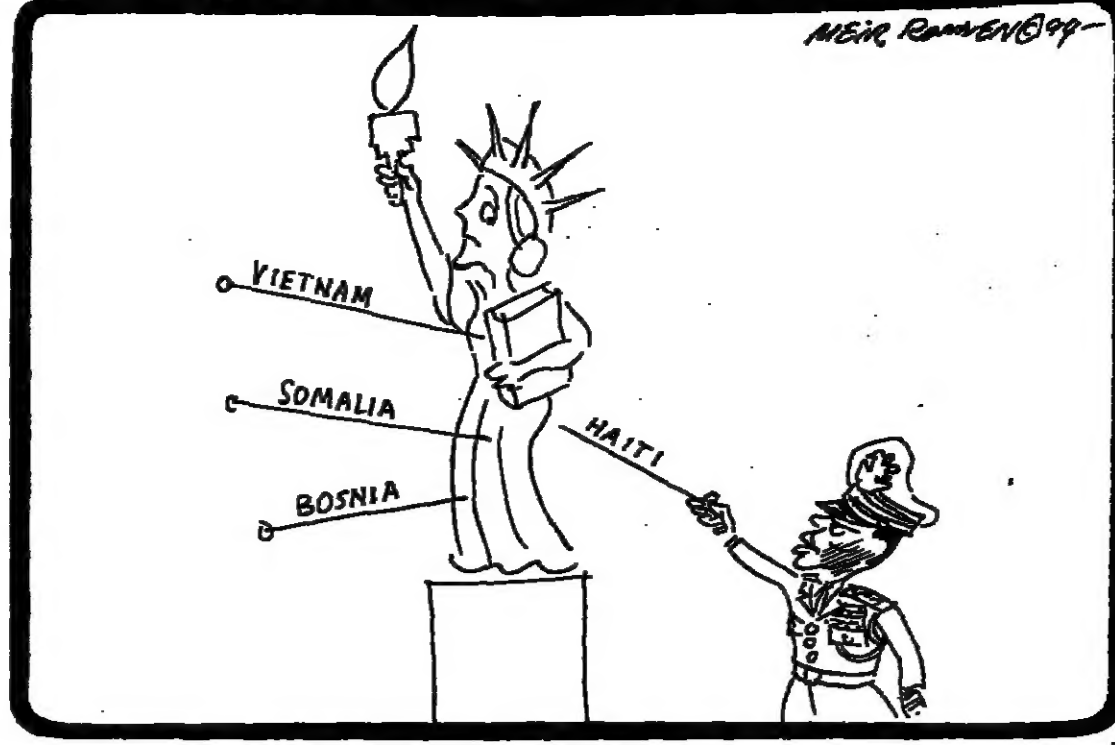
Although the Labor Party's political bureau and Knesset faction did not impose party discipline earlier this week on the "renegade" MKs who are preparing to introduce a bill which mandates a 70-MK Knesset majority for withdrawing from the Golan, it is clear from the tone of the meeting that

this will come. Peres's remark to MK Avigdor Kahalani, the leader of the Labor mavericks, that "just as a soldier must obey orders, so an elected official must bow down to the dictates of the majority," leaves little doubt as to what will happen at next week's meeting.

At the same gathering, Peres also hit out at the hunger strikers, calling their protest "an undemocratic act aimed at influencing and determining policy by undemocratic means." This is nonsense. Without the freedom to protest, there can be no democracy. While Syrian leader Hafez Assad may brook no opposition to his policies - the sudden mushrooming in Damascus of billboards praising peace should be read more as a reminder of Assad's authoritarian regime than a sudden outbreak of Syrian goodwill - Israel's leaders can only make existential decisions if they have the backing of the Israeli public. Yesterday's meeting between Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu and Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan shows that agreements between Israel and its Arab neighbors can win cross-party support, but this support is dependent on the preservation of Israel's vital interests.

In the negotiations with Syria, a majority of the country clearly feels the government is endangering these interests. It is the democratic right of the hunger strikers to build on this opposition and make life difficult for the government. But now that the hunger strikers have successfully captured the public's attention, they should begin considering their own personal lives.

Their devotion to the importance of the Golan Heights to Israel is beyond dispute, and they have introduced new vigor into the campaign against any withdrawal. They should now break their fast, restore their strength, and prepare for continuing the protest in other forms. Their strength and determination will be needed when the government finally brings the question of the Golan Heights to the people.



Guns galore for Gaza

SINCE the Oslo agreement a year ago, Hamas and Islamic Jihad have smuggled thousands of light arms into the Gaza Strip. These include automatic rifles, submachine guns, revolvers, hand grenades, explosives, bomb-making equipment and immense quantities of ammunition.

The vast bulk of this weaponry was transported by sea and over the land border with Sinai since the withdrawal of Israeli army units and Yasser Arafat's arrival in Gaza. In addition, some members of the Palestine Police have been selling their own guns to Hamas operatives, then reporting the "theft" of their equipment to their commanders.

"An explosive situation is boiling up just below the surface in Gaza, Jericho and the areas of the territories where early empowerment is being extended," a source highly respected in the intelligence community told us. "This is known not only to Israeli intelligence; it is also common knowledge among European security services."

This is said to be one of the reasons the European Union and other international bodies are withholding the hundreds of millions of dollars in aid they promised the Palestinians. Their fear is that this massive buildup of arms in the hands of extremists will lead to a major upheaval in this part of the Middle East. They don't want to see their dollars going up in smoke.

"When the Israeli army was in Gaza," our source continued, "ballistic tests revealed that the killing of civilians and soldiers in the country was carried out by about a dozen weapons at any one time. These were carefully returned into hiding after the terror actions."

"In the last few months, the Israeli presence in Gaza patrolling the borders has gone. Since then, arms have been flowing in freely."

"The navy is very alert to the danger, but the Egyptians aren't bothered about weapons being smuggled across their border with Gaza. In the past, they could be blamed if terrorists infiltrated from Sinai into Israel. Now all they need say to Jerusalem is: 'The terrorists must have come from Gaza. Direct your enquiries there.'"

It is little wonder that 68 Israelis have been killed since Oslo. This is almost double the figure for the worst year of the intifada, when 37 Israelis were killed in terrorist attacks, and more than the 49 Israeli-

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

his killed last year - before Oslo. Whether the government calls them "sacrifices for peace" or "peace victims," they are still dead.

"I hope," said our source, "that there weren't any violins playing at the concert Peres and Arafat attended in Oslo earlier this month to celebrate the anniversary of the agreement signed a year ago. The scene was reminiscent of Nero fiddling away as Rome burned."

"The crackle of the Oslo flames must surely have drowned out Peres's claim that the agreement 'has launched a new era without violence,' as well as Rabin's promise

Nero's ghost was at the Oslo gala, fiddling away as Rome burned. Only now it's Israel under fire

of 'a time without worries, nights without anxiety, no more death' for Israel."

UNHAPPILY, our source went on, this is the scenario many of his colleagues in intelligence feared would evolve after Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat shook hands on the White House lawn. Their fears are being borne out by the harsh facts: Arafat hasn't kept a single promise he's made.

"We now know, without any doubt, that Arafat, Hamas and Islamic Jihad are working hand in hand," stated our source. "Arafat's master plan is to hasten the granting of autonomy in the West Bank as much as possible. As the Israeli army pulls in its horns in the territories, the arms now piling up in the Gaza Strip will find their way all over Judea and Samaria."

It seems that Arafat's "Lebanon syndrome," as his PLO advisers call it quite openly, is unfolding right before our eyes.

"Arafat's aim is to make these arms available to his men in Jericho and other West Bank cities, to counter Hamas's growing popularity. In this way, our source explained, he believes he can outmaneuver their leaders and maintain his grip over the entire area of what the PLO calls 'the framework

of the Palestinian state.' This was the tactic he so nearly succeeded in putting into effect in Jordan, and did succeed with in Beirut and southern Lebanon."

Our source spoke about Hamas's agenda. Hizbullah introduced the use of mortars, Sagger missiles, Katyushas and other rockets in Lebanon, he said, and know how easy it will be to smuggle these weapons into Gaza and the West Bank once the IDF no longer controls borders and major towns.

"Working in conjunction with their brethren in Lebanon, Hamas will squeeze Israel's military and civilian population from two directions: Gaza in the south, and the territories in the east. This will bring the suburbs of Jerusalem and the greater Tel Aviv area within their firing range."

"We are heading for a situation in which the PLO and Hamas compete for the hearts and minds of the Palestinians in Gaza and the territories, each trying to prove it has the greater macho image - measured by the quantities of Jewish blood it can spill."

"Until the showdown comes, Arafat and Hamas have agreed to work together. All terrorist attacks are, by mutual agreement, called Hamas or Islamic Jihad operations. The plan is simple. The pace of killings is carefully measured; the escalation is to be slow but certain, so as not to alarm the Israelis too much."

The Palestinian Police, it seems, will in no way punish known terrorist attackers, or hand them over to Israel.

"Not only does it have no motive to do so, but it would be signing the death warrant of any commander who did such a thing. Men accused of collaborating with Israel in the past are already being horribly tortured and murdered - contrary to what was promised."

Israeli security people are deeply disturbed by the way Palestinians who served them well in the past have simply, for the most part, been left to their fate, our source said.

"And their fears are justified, for all security agencies rely heavily on informants, who trust their handlers to protect them if they get into trouble."

"Who will be willing to take the word of an Israeli ever again?"

The writers are authors of *The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East*.

Spending spree

HANNA SEMER

THE average Israeli family, that mythical entity created by the Central Bureau of Statistics, now needs some NIS 6,070 a month to make ends meet. Assuming income tax, this necessitates a gross income of around NIS 8,000. This kind of income does not typify most Israeli families. In TV newscasts, we are generally shown people waving their less-than-NIS 2,000 paychecks.

This being the case, how can the average Israeli family spend more than it earns? The most likely explanation: being overdrawn at the bank.

Most reasonable folk, finding their bank balances at zero, wouldn't draw any more funds - or would do so only on rare and special occasions. But the average Israeli overdraws month in and month out, as if this were the normal state of affairs. His beloved overdraft is just another available source of funds.

"I'm doing nicely, thank you," says Mr. Average Israeli, as his overdraft goes up... and up

On the run-up to holidays, the supermarket chains tempt us to buy products as if we were facing a state of siege. It's "buy now, pay later" and, in the meantime, you might win a lottery or strike for higher wages.

Yet not even such spending sprees explain the overdraft phenomenon in this country.

As of late June, credit accounts in our banks stood at NIS 8.185 billion. Debit accounts, however, stood at NIS 25.222b, three times as much. For 1993, the balance was similar, but NIS 3b. short on the debit side. Overdrawing was unaffected by geography: as much was overdrawn in Dimona and Kiryat Shmona as in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

While we atone, as we must, for this sin of living beyond our means, we might wonder whom we learn this wisdom from. The answer, clearly, is all Israel's governments.

The early ones hardly had a choice. Their coffers were empty, and the nation needed to be fed. Later, however, living beyond our means turned into a habit we haven't, it seems, been able to kick.

The term "economic independence" is no longer current. Incredible, it used to be one of our national goals. Our old-fashioned leaders, people like David Ben-Gurion, held that dependence works against sovereignty. They were naive enough to believe that foreign aid should be accepted for development, security and absorption, but not for bettering one's standard of living.

ISRAEL IS not a world leader in living standards. But we are comfortably in the middle, below the Swiss, the Scandinavians and the Americans, and, according to World Bank data, above the people of New Zealand, Greece, oil-rich Saudi Arabia (\$5,000 below us in per capita income), Argentina and of course countries of the former Communist bloc. Turning to the Third World, an Israeli's standard of living is 36 times higher than that of a Chinese.

These comparisons are based on Gross National Product, but in our case we must add various "entitlements" - grants, donations and German reparations. With these, Israel's annual standard of living goes up to some \$15,000 per capita.

Not bad at all, with private consumption constantly going up (and public consumption going down, mirroring Israel's backing away from social-democratic concepts, not to mention socialist ones).

By some standards, we are a developed country. Our entrepreneurs roam the globe. Our investors are already establishing plants abroad, at times as part of multinational enterprises. Yet we still hold out our cup for a grant here and a loan guarantee there, paying little lip service to economic independence.

The government has done well in lowering unemployment rates, and it is engaged in an important drive against inflation. It has also done rather well in aliya absorption, overall.

But none of this changes the fact that the average Israeli follows the government's lead in considering deficit funding natural, acting as if expenses should naturally be higher than income.

On the national level, this is dangerous. Were our current sources of massive foreign aid to dry up, our fall would be shattering.

Economic independence, therefore, must remain an empty slogan. It must be restored to its former status of a declared national goal.

The writer is a former editor of Davar.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FRUSTRATED OUTBURST

Sir, - I feel compelled to react to Ariel Sharon's disbanding of September 2, "Symbols and scoundrels," and to try and remind him of where he stands. I have made it my personal policy to ignore the outbursts of Sharon and his cohorts as much as possible, but *The Jerusalem Post* still feels the need to waste precious column space on this man.

The article in question was no more than the frustrated outburst of a man who knows that his time has passed; that his ideas and policies of continuous war and strife and misplaced Jewish nationalism are being more and more ignored and forgotten. Each point he brought up were results of a new and successful policy of the government to pull Israel out of its

isolation, its perpetual state of war and its neo-colonial behavior of the past 20 years.

The last sentence of his article convinced me that Ariel Sharon can go too far in absurdity and hypocrisy. Does he really hope that some of today's politicians will be put on trial for what they are doing?

I am sure I don't have to remind Sharon of his own career, which has been rife with incidents for which more developed nations would have put him on trial. He should count himself lucky that the many misdeeds in his career have gone unpunished.

Sharon's voice has the hollow echo of a past best forgotten.

Regavin. JAN VAN MIL

ANTISEMITISM AT THE TOP

Sir, - A new book, *Eminent Churchillians*, by Andrew Roberts, has been recently reviewed in the *Times Literary Supplement* by John Charmley, who has himself written a controversial book on Churchill. May we quote the following passage from this review:

"To comment adversely on George VI's opposition to Jewish immigration to Palestine might seem politically correct, but it ignores the fact that, at the time, the British were facing what amounted to an insurrection in Palestine; this was caused largely by Jewish immigration; George VI may, like others of his time, have been antisemitic, but his views on Palestine owed more to contemporary circumstances than to the obsessions of posterity. The King's view that 'Old Balfour was a silly old man' is, in this instance, hard to fault."

To old-timers like ourselves this is another confirmation of the anti-Zionist (if not openly antisemitic) attitude of the authorities during the British Mandate. What is less well-known is that the rot started at the very top - at the king himself.

Is it not perhaps time to rename some of the principal urban thoroughfares in our major cities? We know, of course, that King George Street in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem were so named to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of King George V, and not his son. Perhaps the appropriate municipal committees might examine this question at one of their future meetings.

JACK PADWA, GABRIEL CIFRONI
Tel Aviv.

HABONIM-PERTH

Sir, - This year is the jubilee of the founding of Habonim in Perth, Western Australia. Fifty years of activity is no small achievement, especially since, geographically, this is probably the most isolated Zionist youth movement in the world.

Former members and emissaries are hereby invited to a get-together to mark the occasion on Hol Hamoad

Succot, on September 25, at Neot Kedumim, as part of a general Australian get-together.

For further details, contact the office of the Australian Zionist Federation at 02-618199, or in the evenings 02-908365.

SHLOMO ETZION
Kibbutz Tzora.

CAR PHONES

Sir, - Perhaps the minister of transport would like to consider this paradox:

● Drivers are required by law to have both hands on the steering wheel, except when operating the controls of the vehicle makes this impossible.

● Not having introduced any relevant regulation, by default the minister condones driving with only one hand on the wheel, by drivers using a hand-held car phone.

DAVID MEISLER
Beit Zayit.

SHAME!

Sir, - In a recent demonstration in Beit El (August 30) to protest the prolonged lack of water, one of the roads leading to the civil administration building was blocked. The second road was left accessible.

While standing in the shade of the family car with my small grandchildren, I heard the grinding of wheels, and an army car with its right front door open suddenly sped out of the field behind us onto the road to the civil administration building. The driver was an army officer with at least one cluster on his shoulder.

Another officer - a captain - smilingly followed the car on foot. I called out to the officer on foot that the driver could have killed someone. His reply was that it was a pity he hadn't killed someone. And with that he ran to the car with the open door that had slowed down for him.

I find it deplorable - even more so than the Arabs depriving Jews of their water supply - that one Jew can express such animosity toward a segment of the Israeli population. His death wish for people he doesn't even know and hardly understands makes one wonder what honor such a soldier can bring to the Israeli army uniform.

LILLIAN ENGLANDER
Beit El.

CHRISTIANIZATION OF THE HOLOCAUST

Sir, - Uri Dan and Dan Eisenberg have good reason to be upset at the Christianization of the Holocaust ("Biggest lie of them all," September 8). Since we will probably never succeed in erasing this grotesquery, we should simply change our perspective in this matter.

Let us regard the churches, convents and crosses placed on the sites of the camps as the ultimate symbols of where the responsibility for the horrors truly lies. Nothing the Catholic Church does will change how we respond to these places. And nothing will change the attitude of Catholics until the Church acknowledges its responsibility for the hatred that made the Nazi horror possible, or admits that its indifference was as great a sin as the actual murders.

What is saddest of all is that the State of Israel agreed to establish diplomatic relations with the Church before any meaningful act of contrition was made.

YITZHAK PERLOW
Petah Tikva.

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My wife is great, but she hates sex

DEAR RUTHIE

RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie,
My wife grew up in a very religious home. I think this is why she has an aversion to sex. In almost every other way, we have a very solid marriage. But it pains me and makes me tense and anxious that my wife is repelled in bed. I suggested that we go to some sort of couples or sex therapy, but she is too ashamed. I don't know what to do. Please help.

At a (Libido) Loss
Somewhere in Israel

Dear At a Loss,
Suggest that your wife consult a rabbi (or rebbeztin). If her religious background has anything to do with her problem — which it may not have — perhaps she would be more comfortable seeking spiritual guidance. If she resists this idea as well, you should seek counseling on your own. A therapist might be able to help you learn how to approach her. And discussing what goes on in a session with your wife may help make the experience seem less menacing to her.

You must stress that you are suffering from this problem as much as she is, so that she will feel compassion for you, rather than pressure from you.

Dear Ruthie,
I have been divorced for two years. My ex and I have shared custody of our two children, now aged seven and nine. Last month, my ex remarried. The children know their stepmother well, since she was their father's girlfriend for over a year. This is why I was so surprised when they announced that they no longer wish to spend nights with their father. In other words, they want a new custody arrangement.

I think my ex suspects I put them up to it, but the contrary is true. I work shifts, and it will be almost impossible for me to manage if the children stay with me all

week. How can I settle this?
Dumbfounded Divorcee
Jerusalem

Dear Dumbfounded,
Put your ex-husband's suspicions on hold, and examine what is happening with the kids. Your technical difficulties with regard to your work schedule should also take a back seat. (Babysitters can be obtained in the meantime.) The main thing to focus on is the emotional state of your children.

Apparently, though their acquaintance with their stepmother isn't new, their feelings about living in a new constellation with her are. You and their father must join forces to find out what is causing their problem and what you can do to solve it.

The advice of a divorce mediator (usually a psychologist or social worker who specializes in just such problems) could be helpful.

Things may be a little rocky for a while, but you, your ex, and his wife can help the kids adjust more easily — as long as they are given top priority.

Dear Ruthie,
My son went with me to the printers to select his bar-mitzva invitations. The ones he likes are the most hideous. He says it's his bar mitzva, so he should be allowed to choose. What do you think?
Barred from Bar-Mitzva Decisions
Ramat Hasharon

Dear Barred-Mitzva,
I think that you don't want any invitations to think you have bad taste. Period. If this is more important to you than a scene with your son, who is probably feeling a bit anxious anyway, then you should insist on your choice. After all, you're the one who's footing the bill.

Letters should be addressed to: Dear Ruthie, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

Free flight to the US for Caribbean cruise

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE Holland-America Line is offering free air transport to the US for passengers in the luxury categories of its Caribbean cruises.

Passengers in the budget-priced cabins will have to pay only \$60 to \$280 for the round-trip airfare. The prices of the cruises start at \$1,530 for a seven-day sailing.

Another luxury cruise ship, Radisson Diamond — which normally sails in the Caribbean — will have several cruises in the Mediterranean, with ports of call in the South of France, Italy, Greece, Turkey and Spain.

Staterooms have either queen-size or twin beds and include a sitting room or balcony. Prices start at \$1,383 for a three-day cruise, including full board, but not airfare from Israel.

The company is represented here by Amiel Tours.

GROUPS OR individuals renting donkeys from Donkey Tracks at Mitzpe Hoshaya in Galilee will get a 50 percent reduction on the entry fee to nearby Sepphoris and a complimentary cup of coffee.

For individuals, the donkeys, which are not available on Shabbat and holidays, cost NIS 35 an hour. Entry to Sepphoris is NIS 11 for adults and NIS 5.50 for children.

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Vladivostok, 9,200 kilometers and seven time zones away from Moscow, has a livelier, more relaxed atmosphere than other parts of Russia. (APN)

Where life is sweet — and full of fish

TRAVEL

ELIF KARAN

THE traveler's heart leaps as the plane dips out of the clouds towards the Amur, the long-contested Siberian river marking the sensitive border between China and Russia.

For centuries, Russians and Chinese fought for control of the Amur. The port built here in 1860, after Russia's dramatic expansion in east Asia, has a boastful name which even today challenges China — Vladivostok, the "ruler of the East."

But one comes down to earth with a bump as the plane noses into a steep dive, lands on the runway of Vladivostok Airport and skids to a stop.

Outside, stray dogs chase each other under the wings of jets parked on the tarmac. The shabby terminal building is all too familiar — the dirt, chaos, dripping water pipes, parcels tied with string and swarming insects resembling a refugee camp.

Planes cannot make the nine-hour Moscow-Vladivostok flight if the wind is strong. Like sailboats in a storm, they make a stop on the way to save fuel and wait for the wind to drop.

Vladivostok, built on craggy green hills rising from the Pacific, is the base of the once-mighty Soviet Pacific Fleet and was a mysterious and closed city until two years ago.

Antique guns, testaments to the port's military past, stand in dockside parks. Even beaches are the targets of occasional practice amphibious landings.

PERHAPS SIMPLY because Moscow is 9,200 kilometers and seven time zones away, Vladivostok has a livelier, more relaxed atmosphere than other parts of Russia.

Mikhail Bobkanov, president of the commercial port, says it's a *sladkaya zhizn* — sweet life. "We

go sailing and relax on beaches, while Russians in Siberia are already freezing."

Seafood restaurants buzz with lunchtime crowds. Sailboats glide on a sparkling sea. Trams run up and down the roller-coaster streets overlooking the Golden Horn bay.

Russians in swimsuits enjoy a hot September day at a beach by the yacht harbor. The fish market is teeming with life in a city where commercial trade in seafood began only recently.

A fisherman wearing a woolen hat and Chinese-made deck shoes sells a variety of deep-water fish — and a giant octopus for only 1,000 roubles (less than 50 cents) a kilo.

Thousands of second-hand Japanese cars brought in by seamen

clog the streets. Port officials say up to 100 extra cars appear daily in this "mecca of automobiles."

The white Japanese sedans are cheaper than Russian cars.

But the drivers are Russian and the cars need a wash. The city is run-down.

As subsidies from Moscow dry up and transport costs on the Trans-Siberian Railway soar, Vladivostok is becoming isolated from the rest of Russia and ignored in Moscow.

Dignified pre-revolutionary buildings lining the waterfront are rotting. Battleships rust in the harbor.

The fleet's sailors seldom go to the sea because of fuel shortages. When they do go out, they bring back cars from Japan.

The region's energy producer Dalenergo recently cut off power to 25 state enterprises because of debts amounting to \$80 million. Fuel shortages mean Vladivos-

tok has no hot water — in some areas none since March. Electricity was rationed last year. The region does not have enough coal for the winter, officials say.

The state economy, dominated by the military industry and cushioned from the real world for many years by the ex-Soviet command system, is in a nosedive. But private business is booming.

Although there has been little direct investment so far, a growing number of frontier adventurers are seeking to cash in on Vladivostok's unique location bordering Japan, China and Korea.

Local officials wonder why they should continue shipping their timber and fish to Moscow in an increasingly one-way relationship.

"Moscow is turning its back on us," said Vladivostok's 42-year-old mayor, Konstantin Tolstoshin. "We are forced to cooperate with the countries of the Asian Pacific region." (Reuter)

Primary magic: Color me blue, yellow and red

THE PRIMARY COLORS, by Alexander Theroux. Henry Holt. \$17.95; 268 pp.

"IT is strange how deeply colors seem to penetrate one, like scent."

This quote from *Middlemarch* — the frontispiece to Alexander Theroux's *The Primary Colors* — is the most apt of intros for this playfully profound, one-of-a-kind book.

Theroux's lengthy essays on blue, yellow and red — one essay per color — seem to spring from an almost pagan worship of everything that color can inspire in us.

Reading the book can be a heady, intoxicating experience, because Theroux gives his words the same tactile, almost talismanic shimmer as the colors he invokes.

The invocation draws on personal memories and literary anecdotes, fragments of art history, military history, politics, movie references, archeological tidbits, gossip, poetry, prejudices, scientific arcana and sporting lore. It draws on just about everything, promiscuously.

Theroux's style is a puzzlement — discursive and singsong, yet ferociously driven.

There's real propulsion to his free-associative japes and "aperçus." He probably could have continued adding association to association forever, but he knows when to draw the curtain on his three acts.

This is no rambling, dolted-up database of a book, no mere catalog of caprice. It's something far stranger than that — despite its surface calm it's almost a mad book.

For Theroux, there's something anthropomorphic about color — it has its own life in a way that's powerfully unsettling and sensual. His feeling for the primary colors (for all color, really) is so piercingly intimate that it's creepy. He makes us feel pretty stupid for looking at, say, the color blue in our everyday lives and seeing ... the color blue.

When Theroux looks at the primary colors he sees an entire latticework of connections. (His book is a mansion of filaments.)

Here is Theroux on yellow: "It is the color of cowardice, third prize, the caution flag on auto speedways, adipose tissue, scones and honey, the nimbus of saints, school buses, urine. New Mexico license plates, illness, the cheeks of penguins, the sixth dog's livery in greyhound racing, highway signs, Penzance and the oddly lit hair before adulthood of all Aborigines."

BOOKS

PETER RAINER

prize, the caution flag on auto speedways, adipose tissue, scones and honey, the nimbus of saints, school buses, urine. New Mexico license plates, illness, the cheeks of penguins, the sixth dog's livery in greyhound racing, highway signs, Penzance and the oddly lit hair before adulthood of all Aborigines."

"Easter is yellow, so is spring, and much of the beauty of autumn. It is redolent of old horn, dead coins, southernwood and the generous sun...." This is more than a checklist — it's practically an incantation.

Theroux has written novels and poetry, and there's a novelist's ardor for the precise detail in these words, as well as a poet's unblinking eye ("the cheeks of a penguin").

Theroux doesn't really create new emotions in us — he connects us to our own private emulsion of mood and memory. We don't necessarily make the same connections he does, but we can recognize his passion for getting it all out.

The *Primary Colors*, while it may seem to be a species of personal memoir, is also an oddly distanced book. We don't feel we really "know" Theroux after we've read it, and that may be part of his magician's act.

Now you see him, now you don't. He brings us very close to the root of his mood. He writes how the snowfall was blue the day he was engaged to be married; of a blue bistro he remembers in Montparnasse.

But he also talks — in virtually the same breath — of how hallucinations on mescaline are supposed to be blue, how blue is not mentioned in the Bible, how a blue spot (which gradually disappears) can be found on the lower back of newborn Asian babies.

There's something closed-off about Theroux's openness. Perhaps it's because he's employing

his own life as a kind of poetic conceit. His fantasies are experienced on the same level as his privacies.

Even though his book deals with primary colors — colors that can't be made by mixing other colors together and from which nearly all other colors are mixed — Theroux understands that a color can be too pure.

He prefers a mongrelization of tones in his primary hues; it suits his poetic mongrel style.

Theroux has his chichi, mushy-mystic side — everything and nothing don't always add up to something.

But he's set himself a large and fundamental task here. He's trying to get across how colors affect us in ways we can't fully acknowledge.

He's trying to find a language to express the inexplicable and he's probably right in reaching for a fervid fanciness in the prose.

(Los Angeles Times)

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1994

3COM Corp. buys NiceCom

RACHEL NEIMAN

NICE Systems announced yesterday that the 3COM Corporation will purchase its subsidiary NiceCom for approximately \$53 million plus an additional \$5.5m. in stock options.

The acquisition will be completed next month. Since its founding in 1993, Nice Systems has focused on development of solutions for integration of Local Area Network (LAN) and ATM switching.

3COM, a Fortune 500 company,

is a world leader in data networking. The company is headquartered in Santa Clara, California and conducts research and development in the US, the UK and Ireland.

"We wanted to provide ATM solutions that will help us make ATM viable and cost effective," said 3COM chief executive officer Eric Benhamou.

"NiceCom's focus on preserving

the customer's existing networking investments... and ASIC-driven ATM technology makes them the best strategic fit for 3COM," he said.

Benhamou said the acquisition's core of talented engineers and global perspective were other advantages to the deal.

Under the terms of the agreement, all 43 NiceCom employees will be retained. In addition, Nice-

Com will maintain its Tel Aviv facilities and become a division of 3COM.

NiceCom conducted a private placement in January, raising \$5m. in return for 25 percent of the company. The lead investors were Hapoalim Provident Funds and Mofet and Star venture capital funds.

Nice, which owns 53% of NiceCom shares, expects to receive between \$18m. and \$20m. in net profits following the sale.

McDonnell Douglas-Israel Shipyard deal in works

HAIM SHAPIRO

ny could raise credit through commercial channels. Details about the deal were revealed yesterday during a meeting between Finance Minister Avraham Shohat and Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar on the privatization of the company.

Almog also said the Defense Ministry has yet to transfer even one agora to the company for the construction of a missile carrier, even though work on it has been going on for a year.

In response, Shohat promised that the Treasury would transfer \$9.5 million to the company for the project.

Inv. Center stiffens review of applications for state guarantees

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Industry and Trade Ministry will scrutinize more closely applications for government guarantees for investments in development zones, the ministry said yesterday.

This follows a series of failures which have required the government to cover large sums of unpaid loans.

Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish ordered Moshe Dorat, the ministry's Investment Center director, to stiffen the review of applications for government guarantees.

As a result, the center has decided to require a full economic review, instead of the present shortened review, which relies solely on information provided by applicants.

The Industrial Development Bank, which performs the reviews, will now check over pro-

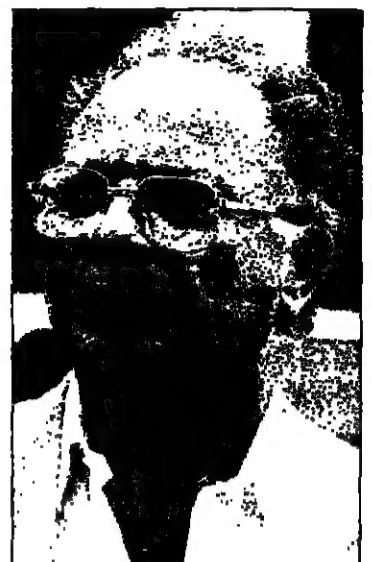
jects in the loan guarantee track as it does grant requests.

As such, the bank will pay special attention to the investors' financial situation and their capacity to fund their investment plan.

In addition, the bank will review whether the project is worthwhile from the perspective of the investor and the state and will draw up a cash flow chart to enable the investment center to better evaluate the projects' potential for success.

The new requirements will apply to proposals filed after October 2 at the Investment Center. The decision will not change the shortened review procedures for requests of up to \$2 million for projects located in confrontation zones.

Under the Capital Investments Encouragement Law, investors have a minimum capital require-



Harish: More scrutiny for giving guarantees. (Isaac Harari)

ment of 30 percent of the project's value to qualify for a government guaranteed loan.

The guarantee for investments on equipment and buildings covers 75 percent of the loan, while the banks cover the remaining 25%. However, guarantees for loans to finance working capital cover 85% of the loan's amount.

Gold soars near its high for the year

LONDON (Reuters) - The gold price hovered around its best of the year near \$395 an ounce yesterday, but analysts said it could soon be a victim of its own success.

Bullion experts say gold might get caught in a trap sprung by its own reputation as an indicator of inflation.

A surging gold price, they said, might help to prompt a precautionary rise in US interest rates. That could siphon "hot" money out of gold and back to bank deposits.

Gold was set at \$394.80 per ounce yesterday morning on the London bullion market. This was its highest since January and extended a rally worth \$8.70 since September 1.

A new surge of buying by US investment funds has diverted cash from bond and equity markets into gold.

The key now may be a meeting on Tuesday of the US Federal Open Market Committee, when interest rates could be discussed.

"The latest spike up in gold's price may force the Fed to raise rates," said Geoff Rhodes, senior precious metals adviser at Credit Suisse Private Banking in London.

"This is a real cloud on the horizon."

He cited recent comments by Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, the US central bank, stressing the importance of gold as an inflation indicator > something on which there is now a debate among economists.

Rhodes said higher interest rates reduced the lure of gold as an investment by making it more expensive to hold and increasing the return from leaving money on deposit.

UBS's Smith conceded that a US rate hike could provoke selling, but he added that "the market just now has less to do with inflation than the mechanisms which move prices."

Technical analysts who chart historical price movements to forecast future trends said gold was testing key resistance at \$395.50 an ounce.

If broken, there would then be a psychological challenge of getting through \$400 before last year's high of \$409, where serious selling pressure could be expected, dealers said.

Total world gold supply last year was 3,544 tonnes.

Ramat Beka eliminated as prospective site for FEPZ

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Free Export Zones Council eliminated the Ramat Beka area as a prospective location for the Free Export Processing Zone (FEPZ), since it is not appropriate for clean industries, the Treasury announced earlier this week.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat asked at the council's meeting that the FEPZ be located as close as possible to Beersheba. Under the FEPZ law, the zone may be located in a development area either in the Negev or the Galilee.

The council is considering three possible sites near Beersheba - Lehavim, Likit and Tel Shohat.

Shohat directed the council to coordinate with the ministries of

interior, industry and trade, the Israel Lands Administration and others to find the appropriate area for the zone.

In addition, he demanded that the council finish its work as quickly as possible in order to issue a tender soon to investors interested in running the concession.

Under the law, the zone will be run as a concession following a competitive bid. Businesses locating in the zone will be entitled to a complete tax exemption for 20 years.

In addition, all bureaucratic processes will be streamlined into a one-stop, one-stop administrative center.

Africa Israel Inv. plans to raise up to \$220m. in two parallel issues

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

AFRICA Israel Investments plans to raise up to \$220 million through two parallel issues - on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange and overseas.

The company plans to raise between \$100m. and \$150m. abroad and between \$50 and \$70m. on the TASE.

Africa Israel managing director Shimon Gromman flew to London at the start of the week to meet with potential underwriters.

He is expected to decide today on the lead underwriter for the issue and two or three other underwriters.

At the start of the week, Africa Israel reported it is negotiating with an international financial company which offers investment advice and capital raising services.

Africa Israel deputy managing director Shimon Harel said the

company intends to conduct an offering of its shares in London and New York, and is also contemplating other large European cities. The offering is scheduled sometime near the end of November.

Two weeks ago, Africa Israel submitted a draft prospectus to the Securities Authority to raise capital on the TASE. The prospectus is based on the company's financial statements for the second half of the year.

The proceeds of the issues will be used to increase Africa Israel's capital base. The company is currently traded at a market value of approximately \$700m., compared with \$54m. at the end of 1988.

Harel said Africa Israel has grown from a leading real estate firm to a leading investment com-

pany during the last few years.

The group is active in land development and construction, real estate, tourism, trade and industry, insurance and income producing assets.

According to Harel, the group plans to open a chain of three-star hotels and continue to invest in commerce and industry during the next few years.

Africa Israel last raised capital on the stock exchange in 1986. Harel said the decision to raise capital before the end of the year is mainly due to the decision by the Treasury and Bank of Israel to limit banks' holdings in non-banking corporations to 25%.

Bank Leumi currently holds 51% of Africa Israel's shares, South Africa Investors 12% and the remaining shares are held by the public.

Taldor to buy controlling interest in Eldor Computers for \$8 million

RACHEL NEIMAN

TALDOR Computers, together with Elbit and a Hapoalim Investments holding company, announced yesterday it would buy a controlling interest in Eldor Computers for \$8 million.

Taldor CEO Asher Beharav said the purchase was part of an overall strategy "to enlarge the company's customer base, widen its product line and increase activity in the communications field."

Parent company Elul wanted to expand into the civilian market, making the deal suitable to the interests of both, he said.

Jointly established in 1983 by Elbit and Hapoalim Investments, Eldor provides solutions for mid and large-sized institutions from hardware to networking. The company also represents and supports outside firms in Israel. Eldor employs 180 workers in four branches in the country's major cities.

Eldor CEO Ofer Shelo called the acquisition of his company by software house Taldor "advantageous to both companies."

Following the purchase, Hapoalim Investments will hold 22% of Taldor.

Leumi, Harel ordered to provide more data to clients of their pension policies

EVELYN GORDON

BANK Leumi and Harel Hamishmar must give more information to customers if they wish to continue marketing a pension policy to senior citizens, Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair has ruled.

The companies must also offer refunds to anyone who decides to cancel their membership after learning more about the terms of the plan, Ben-Yair said.

Bank Leumi has been offering the policies, called "Hadar Gimla'i," to elderly customers on pre-

ferential terms, marketing them as a "bonus" if offers to clients.

However, according to an aide to Ben-Yair, an investigation by Supervisor of Insurance Meir Shavit and later by Ben-Yair's office found that the customers were not being given full information before buying the policies.

For instance, a person must have been a member of the plan for a certain amount of time be-

fore he sees any money from it, the aide said. This period is relatively long considering the fact that the purchasers are senior citizens, he said.

As a result, many buyers will see relatively little money from the plan.

Ben-Yair therefore ordered Leumi and Harel to give all present and future plan members fuller information, and to refund the policies of those who change their minds about joining.

Direx sues company for stealing idea

DIREX Medical Systems and Direx Inc. yesterday filed a \$1.2 million suit against Four Print and Medispec of Or Yehuda for copying and marketing a product that crushes kidney stones via shock waves.

According to the suit, Avner Spector of the respondents worked for the plaintiff as their chief engineer.

He developed the device, which costs \$300,000 apiece, and signed a confidentiality agreement. Spector allegedly violated the

oath, created the competing company and then used Direx's professional and commercial secrets to copy the product and began marketing it, causing the plaintiff financial losses.

The suit charges that Spector's theft of the idea and desire to develop and market it by copying it - without the risk, economic and personal resources the plaintiff had to invest in developing the product - was wrong both legally and morally. No defense has been filed yet.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

First shipment of apples from France arrives: The first shipment of apples from France has arrived at Ashdod port this week, the Agriculture Ministry reported yesterday. The shipment consists of 40 tons of fruit. A second shipment of 200 tons is scheduled to arrive next month. The apples, imported by Tnuva, will be sold at a wholesale price of between NIS 5 and NIS 6 per kilo, compared with NIS 2-NIS 5 for local apples.

Agrexco signs its first export agreement with Croatia: Agrexco has signed its first export agreement with Croatia, a deal to export citrus fruit during the 1994/1995 season. The agreement was signed with Guri Klaric, general manager of Voce Export Import Zagreb. The first shipment is scheduled to leave Israel in a few weeks.

Bank Leumi opens new branch in Petah Tikva: Bank Leumi has opened a new branch in Petah Tikva, located in the Kiyat Arianah industrial park.

RSL Electronics wins \$2.5 million tender with Dutch military: RSL Electronics has won a \$2.5 million tender to supply the Dutch military with artillery monitoring systems.

Bank Mizrahi ups interest rate on dollar-linked shchel deposits: United Mizrahi Bank has increased the interest rate on its dollar-linked shchel deposits. The bank has raised the interest on three-month deposits to three percent, while the interest on six-month deposits has increased to 3.5%. The bank pays interest of 4% on 12-month deposits.

Bank savings programs attract 3.6% fewer deposits: Bank savings programs attracted 3.6 percent fewer deposits last month than in July, totaling NIS 337.26 million, the Treasury reported yesterday. Since the beginning of the year, savings programs have accumulated NIS 1.618 billion. As inflation soared in the past months, index-linked programs continued attracting most of the money, bringing in NIS 372m., while a falling dollar left foreign currency-linked programs with a loss of NIS 34.8m.

WORLD BRIEFS

Mark & Spencer denies Gulf plans: Mark & Spencer, the shopping empire founded by Jewish entrepreneurs that is now Britain's flagship retailer, yesterday denied media reports that it was poised to open stores in the Gulf. "There are no plans to open stores in Kuwait or in any part of the Gulf region," a spokeswoman said in response to a query.

The Kuwait News Agency had reported the retailer was negotiating with a consortium of Kuwaiti businessmen to establish a holding company that would manage new M&S branches in Kuwait, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain. The spokeswoman declined to comment on any problems Mark & Spencer might have should they open shops in Arab countries. The group's links with Israel have in the past prevented contact between it and Arab companies because of the Arab boycott.

German government raises 1994 growth forecast: The German government, which faces an election in less than a month, raised its forecast for 1994 economic growth yesterday and said unemployment would fall by 200,000 next year.

British Aerospace profits rocket: Britain's biggest industrial exporter British Aerospace PLC said yesterday its pre-tax profit rocketed to £329 million from £20m. in the six months to June 30. A one-off gain of £29m. came from the sale of Rover Cars to Germany's Bayerische Motoren-Werke earlier this year.

Lehman says earnings plummet in quarter, mulls cost-cuts: Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. yesterday reported sharply lower earnings for the latest quarter due to a downturn in Wall Street trading and said it is looking for ways to lower its costs. The investment banking house said its profits plummeted to \$22 million, or 10 cents a share, in its fiscal third quarter ended August 31, down from earnings of \$112m., or 96 cents a share, a year earlier. Its said revenues were also taken a dive, plunging to \$719m. from \$1.8 billion.

Ai end to family rows - new device tapes two programs at once: A British company said yesterday it has invented a device which allows television viewers to record two programs simultaneously onto the same video tape. Japanese firms have already shown interest in the device, a spin-off from research into technology to make three-dimensional films, Jack Ezra, the founder of 3D Video Plus, said.

The equipment, developed with the help of a British government grant, is still bulky. But the aim is to make it small enough to fit into a standard video recorder, said Ezra, whose company produces three-dimensional films for museums and conferences.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (21.9.94)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.375	4.750	5.250
German mark (€100,000)	4.250	4.625	5.000
French franc (FF 500,000)	4.125	4.500	4.875
Swiss franc (SF 500,000)	4.000	4.375	4.750
Yen (¥ 10 million)	0.750	0.750	1.000

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (21.9.94)

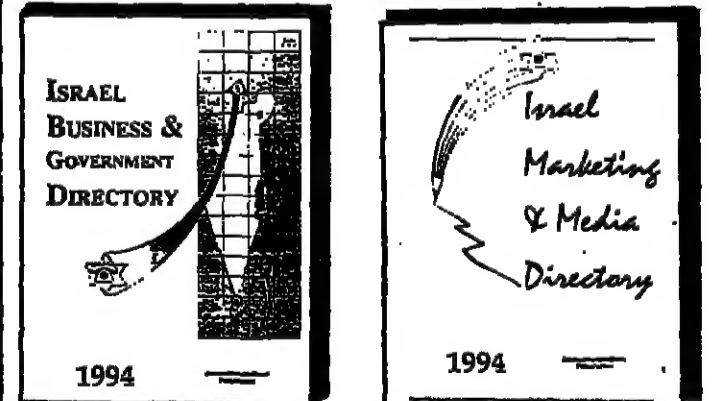
Currency	Bank of Israel	Bank Leumi	Bank Mizrahi	Bank Hapoalim	Bank Harel
U.S. dollar	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850
German mark	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850
French franc	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850
Japanese yen (100)	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850
Swiss franc	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850
British pound	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850
Italian lira (1000)	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850
Spanish peseta (100)	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850
Israeli shekel	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850	2.2850

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Sfr	1.2653/82	0.4887/41	78.29/25	—	4.1185/06
FFr	0.2922/29	0.1198/00	18.40/58	0.2427/29	—

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Spurs to challenge FA punishment

LONDON (Reuters) - Tottenham yesterday launched a fresh bid to overturn its FA Cup ban, heavy fine and six-point penalty deduction imposed by the English Football Association following the irregular payments inquiry.

But both Spurs and the FA, adhering to guidelines laid down by FIFA, world soccer's governing body, have agreed that the matter will go to arbitration rather than the courts.

The arbitration panel will be made up of non-soccer establishment people, although almost certainly all from legal bodies. The hearing gives Tottenham chairman Alan Sugar a second opportunity to reverse a decision originally announced in June.

At the time, Tottenham manager Ossie Ardiles advised his board of directors to "fight it, fight it and fight it again."

The original punishment of 12 points, £600,000 fine and FA Cup ban was adjusted in early July on appeal to a six-point deduction with a £1.5 million fine. But now Sugar is claiming that both FA commissions acted outside their powers.

Tottenham and all the other Premier League clubs enter the Cup in the third round in the first week of January, but the decision on Spurs participation will need to be made before the

first round in November.

The punishment related to 39 separate charges concerning irregular payments to players between 1984-89, two years before Sugar took charge.

While the points deduction and fine hit the club badly, disqualification from the FA Cup was seen as a particularly harsh punishment for the club and its fans who pride themselves on Tottenham's Cup history.

In 1901 Tottenham became the last non-league side to win the Cup and in 1991 they won it for a record eighth time, a total equalled by Manchester United in May.

Teenager Paul Scholes, tipped as a future star, scored both goals on his debut in United's 2-1 away win.

Arsenal also made sure that the second leg of its tie at Highbury in two weeks time would be a formality by demolishing lowly Hartlepool 5-0, but there were shock defeats for Premier League sides Leeds, Leicester and Ipswich.

Mansfield, just four places off the bottom of the Third Division, pulled off the biggest surprise, winning 1-0 at Leeds with Simon Ireland, who had only scored one goal in his career before this season, claiming the 18th-minute winner.

Leicester lost 1-0 at Second Division Brighton, while Ipswich was beaten 3-0 at home by First Division Bolton, its 10th successive home match without a win.

Tottenham manager Ossie Ardiles dropped three players from an unchanged side that had lost three of its previous four games for the match at Watford, giving a debut to Romanian World Cup signing Gheorghe Popescu and recalling veterans Gary Mabbutt and Mickey Hazard.

Although the First Division side scored in the first minute through Craig Ramage, Tottenham was

Klinsmann hits hat-trick in 6-3 win over Watford

LONDON (Reuters) - Jurgen Klinsmann scored his first hat-trick in English soccer as he spearheaded Tottenham to a remarkable 6-3 away win over Watford in the first leg of their second round League Cup tie yesterday.

Cup holders Aston Villa beat Third Division Wigan 5-0, while last season's beaten finalists Manchester United fielded seven reserves but were still too good for First Division Port Vale.

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level three minutes later when Darren Anderton equalized and then quickly gained the upper hand.

Klinsmann took his tally to 10 goals in seven matches for Spurs with goals after 17, 34 and 45 minutes.

Tommy Mooney pulled one back for the home side before Teddy Sheringham added a fifth for revitalized Spurs in the 74th minute.

Watford then missed a penalty and Romanian forward Ilie Dumitrescu re-inforced Spurs domination with his side's sixth in the 87th minute. Andy Hesselbacher completed the scoring in a remarkable match with the ninth goal of the night two minutes from time.

Tottenham's arch-rivals Arsenal, who had won just once in its previous six matches, also showed no mercy to lower division opposition, winning 5-0 at Third Division Hartlepool with two goals from Ian Wright and others from Tony Adams, Alan Smith and Paul Merson.

Ghanaian international Nii Lamptey scored on his debut as Cup holders Aston Villa ran out easy 5-0 winners over Wigan, currently the 92nd and bottom-ranked team in the League.

Dwight Yorke, Dean Saunders and Dalian Atkinson (2) scored the others for the cup holders.

There were no surprises at Chelsea, who beat Second Division Bournemouth 1-0, or at Nottingham Forest, which beat Third Division Hereford 2-1 or at Liverpool which beat First Division Burnley 2-0. John Scales scored his first for Liverpool since signing from Wimbledon with Robbie Fowler adding the second.

But Premier League leaders Newcastle left it late before beating First Division Barnsley 2-1 with Ruel Fox scoring the winner five minutes from time.

TUESDAY'S GAMES: Gerry Creaney, a striker turned down by Everton manager Mike Walker in his first days at Goodison Park, came back to haunt him with two goals as First Division Portsmouth scored a 3-2 away win.

In other upsets, three Third Division sides brushed aside Premier League opposition.

Barnet beat Manchester City 1-0. Walsall overcame West Ham 2-1 and Lincoln defeated Everton's ragged defense with two goals in the first 16 minutes. Bjorn Kristensen added to their troubles with a goal in the second.

But struggling Everton, bottom of the Premier League, pulled two goals back in a desperate fightback which gives them a lifeline for the second leg.

ENGLISH LEAGUE CUP (2nd round, 1st leg)

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS: Aston Villa 5, Wigan 0; Brighton 1, Leicester 0; Chelsea 1, Bournemouth 0; Hartlepool 5, Arsenal 0; Ipswich 1, Bolton 0; Leeds 1, Mansfield 1; Liverpool 2, Burnley 0; Millwall 2, Sunderland 1; Newcastle 1, Barnsley 1; Norwich 1, Swansea 0; Nottingham Forest 2, Hereford 1; Port Vale 1, Manchester United 2; Sheffield Wednesday 2, Bradford 1; Swindon 1, Charlton 3; Watford 3, Tottenham 6.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS: Barnet 1, Manchester City 0; Blackpool 2, Wrexham 0; Bristol City 4, Notts County 1; Carlisle 0, Queens Park Rangers 1; Chesterfield 1, Wolverhampton 3; Everton 2, Portsmouth 3; Fulham 3, Stoke 2; Huddersfield 0, Southampton 1; Lincoln 2, Crystal Palace 0; Oxford United 1, Oldham 1; Reading 3, Derby 1; Scarborough 1, Middlesbrough 4; Stockport 1, Sheffield United 5; Tranmere 1, Bradford 1; Walsall 2, West Ham 1; Wimbledon 2, Torquay 0; Wrexham 1, Coventry 2.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP (quarter-finals)

TUESDAY'S RESULTS: St. Johnstone 1, Raith 3.

'Frustrated' Lineker to quit after season

LONDON (Reuters) - Gary Lineker, top scorer in the 1986 World Cup finals, said yesterday he will retire from soccer at the end of the Japanese season in November after struggling with injury problems.

The former England striker and captain, announcing his retirement from his home in Nagoya, Japan, said: "It's been frustrating not being able to perform like I used to and that made the decision far easier."

Lineker, who will be 34 when he plays his last game for Nagoya Grampus Eight on November 19, said: "I've suffered badly through injury over the last two years, resulting in a couple of operations."

"I've managed to play a few games and score a few goals which is very pleasing but I'm certainly not what I was," added Lineker, who in his 80 international games scored 48 goals, one less than Bobby Charlton's England record.

"What I've found at my age, having returned, is that the speed isn't quite what it was. Things don't quite feel the same - little injuries have arrived, and things I've never had before, like a little pulled hamstring."

Alongside veteran Brazilian



LAST TIME AROUND - Gary Lineker will retire from professional soccer after finishing the season with Japanese League side Nagoya Grampus Eight.

Zico, who ended his long professional career in Japan in June. Lineker was one of the big names imported for the inaugural season of the professional Japanese League in May last year.

He joined Grampus Eight on a two-year deal reportedly worth more than £2 million. The move came shortly after his first son George had been given life-saving treatment for leukemia.

But, hampered by a persistent toe injury, Lineker has failed to show his superb shooting touch. He scored only one goal for Grampus in a scant seven matches last season.

Returning to action after missing the entire first half of the 1994 season, he was immediately sidelined again after suffering a leg muscle injury in the opening match of the second stage J-League program on August 11.

Lineker began his career at Leicester City, then played for Everton, Barcelona and Tottenham Hotspur.

He played in two World Cup tournaments, 1986 in Mexico where he was the top scorer with six goals, and Italy in 1990.

NY takes Giants step forward

EAST RUTHERFORD (AP) - There's only one undefeated team in the National Football Conference and it isn't the Dallas Cowboys or San Francisco 49ers.

It's the New York Giants.

They've found a way to open the season with a 3-0 record despite the retirement of Lawrence Taylor, the salary-cap decision to let Phil Simms go and the loss of six other starters to free agency.

"People didn't expect us, of all people, of all teams, to be sitting here," linebacker Corey Miller said Tuesday as Giants left for a five-day vacation. "It really feels good going into the bye week, having beaten three divisional teams and sitting at the top all by ourselves. It's early, but we have to be excited about what we've done."

What the Giants have done is totally unexpected, considering the changes to a playoff team that went 11-5 in 1993. Many predicted nothing better than an 8-8 record and coach Dan Reeves' best estimate was 9-7.

"I knew that's the way it would be after three games," Reeves quipped Tuesday. "That was my prediction all along."

What the Giants have done is find a way to win. Special teams and Dave Meggett did the job in the opener against Philadelphia. The defense stepped up the following week against Arizona. Then Meggett and Dave Brown came up big this past weekend against Washington.

And when the two-time defending Super Bowl champion Dallas Cowboys were stunned in overtime by the Detroit Lions on Monday night, lo and behold, the Giants were atop the NFC.

"I'd be crazy to tell you I was cheering for the Cowboys," Miller said. "But, hey, it's early. We started out last year the same way and they lost their first two, and they came back and ended up taking the division from us. We have to stay on our toes, rest up and get ready for a 13-week stretch."

While enjoying the start, longtime Giants guard William Roberts preached caution.

"I guess you can say I'm surprised," Roberts said. "I'm happy, but not content. We are going to see most of our adverse situations ahead of us. We have to enjoy this now and realize it is going to take a lot more to get it done."

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

Central

West

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Central

West

Chinese coach to sell elixir at Asian Games

BEIJING (AP) - China's flamboyant track coach Ma Junren, whose long-distance women runners broke a string of world records last year, plans to market his elixir during the Asian Games next month, an official report said yesterday.

Ma's health drink, a secret mix of Chinese herbs and medicine, is already on sale in China under the name "Ma's Army - No. 1."

The report in the Beijing Youth Daily said his runners are quaffing the herbal drinks in preparation for the Asian Games opening October 2 in Hiroshima.

The paper said Ma denied rumors that his runners are given a stronger version of the drink than what he markets. It added that drug testers invariably will be keeping a close eye on what Ma's runners eat and drink because of allegations that the women were taking illegal performance-enhancing drugs when they broke the world records.

But several drug tests have all come back negative, and the paper said Ma is confident that his drink does not violate any regulations.

The coach plans to take sales agents with him to the Hiroshima Games, where he hopes to sign contracts with Japanese buyers for his sports drink even as he's clocking his team, the paper said.

His primary objective at the Asian Games is to win gold medals rather than break world records because the gold medals are the best way to promote the elixir, the report said.

Ma started to market his sports drink because of lack of funding to train his runners. They had to run barefoot until their feet were bloodied because they wore through their sneakers too quickly and there was no money to buy new ones, they said.

NHL resumes talks

NEW YORK (AP) - The National Hockey League and its players' union resumed labor talks yesterday in an effort to work out a new collective bargaining agreement.

On Tuesday, the NHL apparently rejected a players proposal to have wealthier teams "taxed" with the revenue shared among the small-market clubs.

The development left the negotiations on the collective bargaining agreement at a standoff.

As of now, the two sides seemingly remain far apart on a new CBA as the opening of the NHL season approaches on October 1. Players fear that owners will lock them out unless a new agreement is reached by then.

NHL Players Association executive director Bob Goodenow emerged from Tuesday's session, the longest of the negotiations, with a pessimistic view.

"Some serious philosophical differences have to be resolved if we're going to have a deal," Goodenow said.

Lara faces rigorous post-season

LONDON (Reuters) - Brian Lara, the brightest jewel in Warwickshire's triple crown, faces one of the most intense playing schedules in cricket history after a hectic debut season in the English domestic game.

The little Trinidadian left-hander, who scored runs in record quantities with the grace and style that also marked his off-field demeanor, admitted his first summer with Warwickshire was an exhausting experience.

Lara was rarely out of the headlines, playing an influential role as his adopted county landed an unprecedented three titles in a single season.

Endorsements, special appearances and endless interviews added to his mounting involvements, leaving Lara in no doubt when the season ended on Monday that he was truly living in cricket's fast lane.

Lara now has commitments in South Africa and Hong Kong before confronting a rigorous international program with the West Indies.

In the 11 months between the beginning of October and the end of next August, the West Indies will play 15 Tests and at least 16 one-day internationals.

Lara is vice-captain on the West Indies' tour of India which starts next month and includes three Tests, to be followed early next year by two Tests in New Zealand, then a four-Test series against Australia in the Caribbean and finally a six-Test tour of England.

It will be as much a trial of stamina as batting skill for Lara, the holder of the world record individual score in both Test and first-class cricket.

Lara's Test highest of 375 against England in Antigua last April came only two weeks after he signed for

Warwickshire to replace Indian all-rounder Manoj Prabhakar, who was ruled out by injury.

Lara set the English season alight with a sequence of breathtaking performances, reeling off six centuries in seven championship innings including the record first-class score of 501, which he set against Durham.

Timing, balance, power of stroke and, above all, the utter certainty with which he compiled his huge scores were hallmarks of Lara's batting.

Owners, players may face congressional music

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Major League Baseball owners and players are likely to face the wrath of Congress today at a hearing on their labor dispute that canceled the World Series for the first time in 90 years.

The owners called off the rest of the baseball season last week, a month after players began a strike August 12 to protest a salary cap owners wanted to impose. Neither side was willing to compromise in negotiations and the start of the 1995 season is also in jeopardy.

Texas Democrat Jack Brooks, who called the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee hearing, blames both owners and players for putting their own interests above those of baseball fans.

"In their wilful intransigence, it is clear to me that they truly deserve each other - but not the fans whose unfailing support has made the game a national treasure," Brooks, the committee chairman, said in a statement.

Acting Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig and players' negotiator Donald Fehr are expected to testify at the hearing.

Selig, who owns the Milwaukee Brewers, says a cap is needed to hold down sharply rising salaries

that now average over \$1 million a player and to help teams in smaller cities compete with those in larger, more profitable markets.

The players say the game is still highly profitable despite problems of some teams. They want Congress to remove baseball's exemption from antitrust laws, granted by the Supreme Court in 1922, so the dispute can be settled in court.

Brooks said he was willing to consider legislation to put baseball under antitrust laws. "My general view is that exemptions are disfavored and that the burden is on those seeking to obtain or maintain such special treatment from our competition statutes," he said.

President Clinton has also said he might support ending the exemption, which no other professional sport enjoys.

It is unlikely a bill could be passed before Congress adjourns for the year next month, especially since Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell opposes it, but it could possibly come up early next year if the strike has not had a successful resolution.

Mitchell, who has been mentioned as a candidate for the vacant commissioner's job, leaves Congress at the end of the year.

Red Sox's Hobson second field boss to feel ax

BOSTON (AP) - Butch Hobson was fired Tuesday as manager of the Boston Red Sox, having posted losing records in all three of his seasons.

The Red Sox were 54-61 in the strike-shortened 1994 campaign, 17 games out of first place in the American League East. His record since taking the job in 1992 was 207-232.

Hobson, 43, was the second manager fired since Major League Baseball owners called off the rest of the season last week. Hal McRae was let go by the Kansas City Royals the day after the announcement.

In Hobson's first season as manager, Boston finished last in the AL East with a 73-89 record. They were in the division race for much of the 1993 season but ended up at 80-82.

The Sports Pages are edited by Joe Hoffman

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Gatt proposes Ramon return to Labor Party

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE head of the Histadrut's personnel section Meir Gatt yesterday proposed to Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon that he return to the Labor Party and head a joint Labor-Ram faction in the Histadrut.

Ramon said he was prepared to do so, but only if Labor initiates the move.

The subject was raised at a meeting of Ramon with section heads yesterday. Ramon, who until now used to humiliate and slander Labor's faction members at every meeting, was furious to hear that Gatt had proposed to return to Labor and head a joint Labor-Ram faction.

"I blasted Haberfeld. He is not fit to be faction head. He attacked me at the meeting with Rabin," Gatt asked him if he himself would like to head the faction, and Ramon did not reject the notion, but said "only if you initiate the move."

Gatt said yesterday that his proposal was made in earnest, adding that "if Ramon wants to return to Labor and head a joint Labor-Ram list, I am sure that Haberfeld would not object to it." He added that he intends to ask Ramon for a meeting to clarify whether there is any basis for his proposal.

Gatt noted that it would be easier to deal with Ramon as faction head, and to work out problems like the situation at *Davar*, than it is now. "But only on condition that we are all united in this position, and all agree that the Histadrut must be saved, and that Labor's position in it must be preserved," he added.

He noted that at the moment, the Histadrut can hardly function, because every meeting turns into fighting between Ramon and Labor's faction members.

Head of the Histadrut's organization and labor council section Pinni Shomer said if the proposal is serious - which he doubted, since it came up by chance and was regarded as a jest - then it is a partisan, political issue and should be decided in the party's institutions.

Labor sources yesterday pooh-poohed Ramon's seemingly favorable reaction to Gatt's proposal, noting that it is now clear that Ramon is planning to run in an independent list in the 1996 elections and "do to the government what he did to the Histadrut."

Until then, however, the sources said, Ramon is at pains to appear in public as though he supports Rabin and is still a part of Labor, and that is why he was so upset to read of Rabin's attack on him, for the first time since he was elected Histadrut chairman.



These six Israeli motorcyclists will participate in this year's annual Rally of the Pharaohs, which will be held here as well as in Egypt. The 10-day rally, which begins on October 2 in Alexandria, is to honor the addition of Israel, the name of the Rally is to be the Pharaohs-Peace Rally. From right are Muli Golan, Aviv Kadishai, Raz Hyman, Dani Koglevitz, Moti Eldar, and Hezi Alon (IFA).

Teachers to get 35% raise

JOSE ROSENFELD

TEACHERS will receive a 35 percent salary increase over a period of five years, under a wage agreement signed between the Treasury and the teachers union on Monday.

The sides also agreed to partially eliminate the continuing education requirement for teachers, which entitled them to an additional 4 percent in wages. Although the supplemental pay will be preserved, the Treasury claims it will save hundreds of millions of shekels annually from the elimination of that requirement.

The agreement for the period of 1993-1997 covers all teachers, and is the last large public sector wage pact to be signed. Teachers will receive an advance of NIS 1,750 in their September checks.

Treasury wage director Yossi Kucik said the agreement ensures a long period of labor peace in the school system.

The agreement allows the employment of 1,350 teachers by means of personal contracts in national priority zones, including development zone A, disadvantaged neighborhoods, and confrontation zone settlements.

Under these contracts, salaries can be doubled to attract teachers and improve the quality of education in these areas. In addition, the original 300 special contracts under the previous wage agreement are preserved.

Na'amat day care workers set to strike

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

WORKERS at Na'amat's day care centers plan to strike after Succot ends because the Histadrut has failed to raise their pay as required by their contract. Workers at other day care centers have already received the raise.

The strike decision was made earlier this week, after a stalemate in talks. Na'amat officials said yesterday the organization cannot pay the wage raises due to budgetary problems.

Na'amat Chairwoman Ofra Friedman said the two sides had agreed to postpone the strike until the conclusion of the negotiations. She noted that another negotiating session had been scheduled for next Wednesday.

German bill outlaws Holocaust denial

BONN (Reuter). - The German parliament's lower house approved an anti-crime bill yesterday which includes a provision making the denial of the Holocaust a criminal offense punishable with up to five years in prison.

The bill, agreed by Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition and the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) after months of wrangling, also includes a controversial provision allowing police and prosecutors to use information gathered by the German espionage agency BND.

Deputy foreign minister Yossi Beilin said criminalizing the so-called "Auschwitz lie" was very important.

"The denial of the Holocaust, to our great regret, is becoming less and less uncommon, not only in Germany but also in other parts of the world," Beilin said on a visit to Bonn in remarks carried by Israeli radio.

"And that it's becoming a criminal violation has in it an educational message first of all for the young generation in Germany, which is far removed from the frightening events of the past."

The anti-crime package, intended partly to stop voters drifting to right-wing parties in October's general election, gives police and prosecutors more powers to crack down on small-time criminals, organized crime and street violence.

The bill also extends an existing ban on the use of Nazi symbols in Germany to slogans and signs that resemble Nazi symbols.

The SPD originally opposed the BND clause and blocked the bill with its majority in the upper house mainly on the grounds that it undermined Germany's traditionally strict barrier between intelligence services and police work.

The bill now limits how BND gathers covert intelligence and confines its role to suspected serious cases of terrorism, drugs and arms trading, money laundering and nuclear smuggling.

Both Kohl's coalition of Christian Democrats (CDU) and the liberal Free Democrats as well as the SPD have made anti-crime measures a key plank in their election campaigns.

Parliament's upper house will vote on the bill on Friday and, if approved, it will become law on December 1.

Jordan protesters stage sit-in against Guatemalan move

AMMAN (AP) - About 30 activists staged a sit-in yesterday at Guatemala's consulate to protest the Guatemalan Embassy's move from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The protesters, who included members of parliament and leading businessmen, urged Guatemala's honorary consul, Nadim Khouri, to convince his government to retract its decision.

"We consider this outrageous step as conflicting with international legitimacy, foremost of which are the firm and clear UN resolutions on Jerusalem, which consider the Holy City as an integral part of the occupied Arab territories," it said.

"This step transgresses on the feelings of thousands of Guatemalan people of Arab origin and could undermine Guatemala's interests in the Arab and Moslem worlds," it warned.

Most Western embassies are located in Tel Aviv. But some countries, including Bolivia, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic and Guatemala, were reported last month to have decided to move their missions to Jerusalem. Guatemala confirmed the move September 11.

The sit-in, which brought together some of Jordan's business heavyweights, was peaceful. The protesters carried placards which read: "Guatemala = Judas" and "No illegal embassies in Jerusalem."

Those taking part in the protest included Nidal Sukhian, head of the Amman-based regional office of the Washington-based Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, and Raouf Abu Jabr, head of a society of Eastern Orthodox Christians and honorary consul of the Netherlands in Jordan.

Jordan's first elected female member of parliament, Toujan Faisal, was also present, along with colleague Khalil Haddadin, a businessman elected to parliament on a Baathist ticket.

Bosnia seeks ties with Israel

THE Bosnian government has notified Israel it intends to establish diplomatic relations by the end of the year. The message was passed on to Jerusalem by Israeli representatives in the US.

Political sources in Jerusalem placed high importance on the move, mainly because Bosnia has a Moslem majority.

It is hoped in Jerusalem that the establishment of relations with Bosnia will help ties with other Moslem countries. Bosnia will become the second Moslem country in Europe to have ties with Israel; the other is Albania.

Among the state that formerly comprised Yugoslavia, Israel has no ties only with Croatia. Relations with that country were broken off after President Franjo Tudjman made remarks denying the Holocaust. (Hina)

Prosecution seeks stiff term for ex-provident fund official

RAINE MARCUS

THE prosecution in the case involving Eylon Tsubari, the former deputy managing director of Bank Hapoalim's Gmilot provident fund company, asked the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday to impose a long prison sentence and a hefty fine on him.

Tsubari was convicted, by his own confession, of suborning witnesses concerning allegations of stock manipulation. While he was free on bail on these charges, he tried to encourage Nir Ben-Yosef, an Israeli diamond dealer living in Germany, to lie to Securities Authority investigators. Ben-Yosef later turned state's evidence, and Tsubari pleaded guilty to suborning witnesses.

Ben-Yosef, who was also allegedly involved in smuggling money abroad, was promised immunity in return for testifying against his friend and business colleague.

Tsubari has not yet been indicted on stock manipulation charges but the prosecution said his indictment is imminent.

Yesterday the prosecution requested a long prison term to deter others involved in white collar crimes. Defense lawyers Penina Devorin and Dan Qul asked the judge to take into consideration Tsubari's confession and his expression of remorse.

Labor MK Avigdor Kahalani was among the character witnesses who testified for Tsubari yesterday. Sentencing will be on October 4.

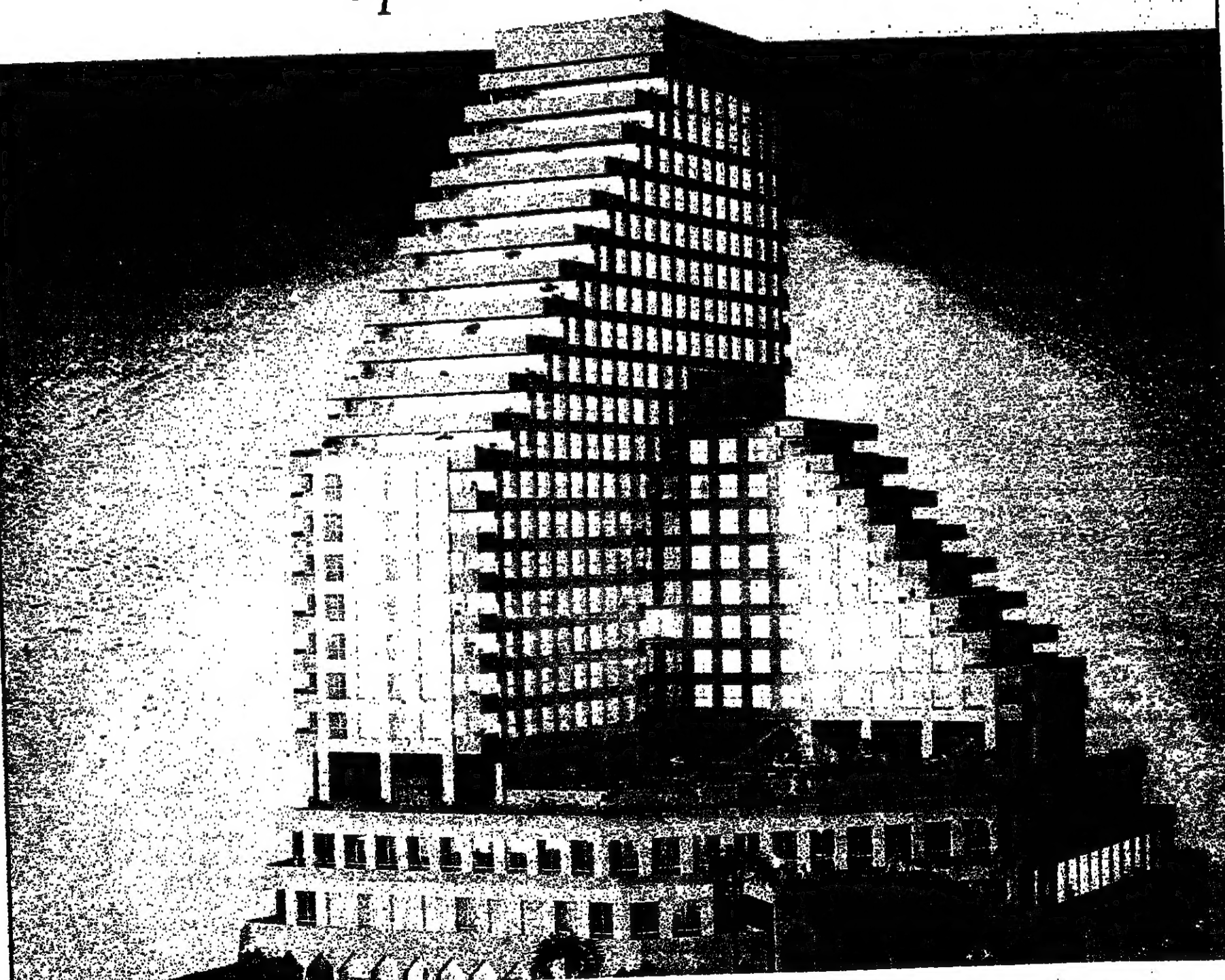
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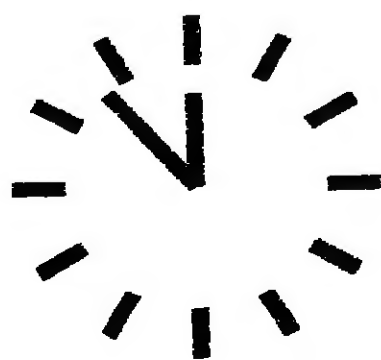
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